

5-year formula may solve Britain's EEC problems

From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 23

A new deal for Britain's contribution to the EEC budget is being sought tonight after a five-year formula to break the long deadlock on the subject received cautious support from all member states.

The new formula was put before foreign ministers meeting here today and is to be studied carefully in EEC capitals between now and April 3. On that day the foreign ministers are to meet again in Luxembourg to try to reach a final settlement.

Essentially, the suggested formula would last for five years. There would be an agreed lump sum compensation for Britain for each of the first three years and a separate agreement negotiated during 1984 for the last two years. So far no review is suggested at the end of this period.

There would be trigger thresholds which could increase or decrease the size of compensation depending on the way Britain's gross domestic product (GDP) varied as a proportion of the Community's total GDP. No real figures are mentioned in the formula and the amount of compensation and the threshold levels are simply referred to as X, Y and Z.

Before the end of the meeting Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, warned his colleagues that the suggested formula contained good things and bad things. "I suspect the meeting in Luxembourg will be pretty hard work", he said afterwards.

The date chosen for the negotiation follows immediately a special three-day meeting in Brussels of agriculture ministers who will be trying to set farm prices for the present season. Lord Carrington said that agreement on the prices would have to be "in parallel" with agreement on the budget package.

Mr. Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, described the suggested formula as "interesting", said it was important that the link was now broken between agricultural prices and the budget question.

Mr. Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Foreign Minister, and current President of the Council, who drew up the new formula with Mr. Gaston Thorn, President of the European Commission, was also to report that enough progress had been made to make it unnecessary for the subject of the budget to be put on the agenda for next week's European summit.

That will not stop Mrs. Thatcher from raising the subject at some stage. She is likely once again to emphasize that Britain's estimated contribution for 1982 will be badly distorted because of the relative strength of sterling at the time when conversion rates for budget contributions were fixed.

This question was raised by Lord Carrington at today's meeting, when he produced a graph designed to impress his colleagues with the scale of Britain's problem. He will be looking for a clear sign that this has been understood by his colleagues during the next meeting.

For Lord Carrington a good point of the formula was that it would provide a five-year package which would avoid annual damaging negotiations. He also liked the idea of the lump sum compensation, although he said that this would have to be an adequate amount.

He was worried, however, that the formula did not contain enough precision and that there was no provision for a review after five years. He also felt that the need for further negotiations in 1984 was a mistake to go too far into detail at this stage but he did hope it would be possible to define X, Y and Z during the Luxembourg meeting.

At the moment the British contributions are paid according to a stop-gap formula worked out on May 30, 1980. The formula: X, Y and Z are the negotiable elements. X is the number of European currency units which Britain would receive in compensation during 1982-84 inclusive. This would be equivalent to . . .

Y per cent of what is called the "objective indicator". This would be the difference in 1981 between Britain's actual receipts from the budget and what those receipts would have been if Britain were being compensated then an amount equal to its share of the Community's gross domestic product. Should Britain's position improve or deteriorate by more than 10 per cent during the time of the package, then an adjustment of Y would have to be agreed by a qualified majority of the council.

Z is a further correcting factor which would be used if Britain were to find that its share of VAT contributions to the EEC budget (currently around 17.5 per cent) were to increase beyond the British share of the community's total gross domestic product (currently about 21 per cent). Compensation to Britain would then amount to Z per cent of the difference between the two.

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Tractors head a march by 100,000 French farmers in Paris protesting at the decline in their living standards.

Jobless dip below 3 million

By Melvyn Westlake

Better news on the jobs front provided some welcome relief for the Government yesterday, just 48 hours ahead of the Glasgow Hillhead by-election. The number of registered unemployed has dipped below three million this month, and Scotland has shown the biggest drop in jobless among all the regions.

The overall total of jobless has fallen by 53,000 to 2,992,000. This represents the biggest March fall since figures were first prepared in their present form, in 1948, and the largest fall in any month since September, 1979.

However, the underlying trend, which excludes seasonal fluctuations, shows a further small increase of 5,000. The number of jobless on this narrow definition stands at 2,992,000 or 11.8 per cent of the labour force. Although the trend is still upward, it is now unmistakably clear that the rate of increase is slowing down.

The average monthly rise in jobless, seasonally adjusted, has been under 20,000 this year, compared with 50,000 last summer and 100,000 a month at the end of 1980. Unemployment among school leavers has also shown a marked improvement. The fall this month (down 17,000) is the biggest in any March since the school-leaving age was raised in 1976.

But, while Whitehall is deriving some satisfaction from the latest figures, there is little likelihood of any sustained improvement in the underlying position. Adult unemployment is expected to go on rising for a few more months before flattening out. The overall total of registered unemployed is certain to rise above three million again by at least the early summer.

The Government is assuming, for the purpose of calculating social security payments, Continued on back page, col 5

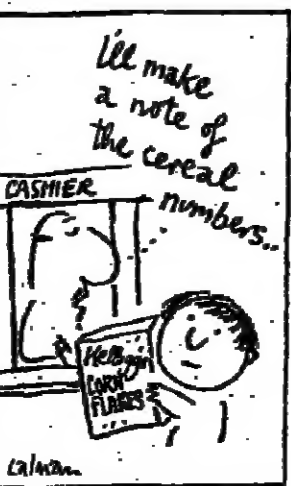
Kellogg's offers cash with the cornflakes

By Torin Douglas

Kellogg's, Britain's biggest cereal company, is getting together with three banks and offering children free cash as an incentive to open bank savings accounts.

The banks—Barclays, Bank of Scotland and Allied Irish—will pay children up to £5 in return for tokens cut from the back of cornflake packets, provided they match the amount with an equal sum of their own.

Since only 10 per cent of account holders ever change their bank, the chances are that a child who opens a savings account with a particular bank will continue to bank with them when he is an adult.



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Navy to close seven training schools

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Some of the Royal Navy's most famous training schools are to close and 4,000 sailors made redundant in a reshaping of the senior service following last year's defence review. Job losses, moreover, could continue.

Details were being flashed around the fleet last night in a lengthy signal from the First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Henry Leach, who paid tribute to the way seamen had got on with their work during the past nine months of uncertainty.

The 4,000 redundancies, mainly among senior officers and ratings, are among a total of 10,000 job losses announced in the Government's special White Paper after the defence review last June.

The first 500 names will be made known later this month, 2,000 more, including 500 officers, by the end of the year, and the rest in 1983. By 1986, the Navy's manpower will be down by 10,000 to 62,000—and the rundown could continue in the late 1980s unless more funds are pumped into defence.

The closure of seven training bases, in their present role, will also mean 500 civilian job losses in addition to the 12,000 already announced mainly as a result of dockyard closures and cutbacks at Chatham and Portsmouth. About 300 of the new civilian cuts will again be at Portsmouth.

The training establishments, their present designation and the dates by which they are to close are: HMS Phoenix, Portsmouth, nuclear, biological and chemical warfare training, 1984; HMS Pembroke, Chatham, supply and secretariat, 1983; HMS Caledonia, Rosyth, engineering artificers, 1985; the Fraser gunnery range, Portsmouth, 1983; HMS Figsard, Torpoint, artificers entry, 1983; HMS Vernon, Portsmouth, diving and mine warfare, 1984-86; HMS Excellent, Portsmouth, assorted training, 1984-85.

The Royal Marines, however, whose quick march "A life on the ocean wave" is likely to spend less time afloat in future, as detachments are taken off frigates and destroyers to make way for the additional sailors on training.

Other changes include the phasing out of Wasp and Wessex helicopters and the retraining of the standby squadron at Portsmouth instead of Chatham.

For the men he gives warning in his signal of "turbulence" in their lives as the Navy adjusts to the changes. But he also promises more stability in the long term, with sailors specializing more on specific skills and finding it easier to predict what they might be doing next.

Longer periods will be spent in ships and more training carried out at sea. But ships will still spend about 40 per cent of their time in any three-year cycle in home ports.

Other changes include greater use of "batch" postings to ships, instead of the old system of "tricky" postings. As many as half a ship's crew might change at once.

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Guatemala officers stage coup

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

The Guatemalan Army yesterday announced the overthrow of President Romeo Lucas Garcia and said a representative government junta had been established. Reuter reported from Guatemala City.

A communiqué read in a national radio and television broadcast by General Efraín Ríos Montt, who was the former vice-president, called on all Guatemalans to back the coup. The coup was mounted by a group of young officers, adding one more element of confusion to the turbulence of Central America, Peter Straford writes.

In Guatemala City, troops surrounded the presidential palace, and aircraft flew overhead.

Two men, General Efraín Ríos Montt and General Leonel Pineda Otero, were urged to report to the national radio station immediately. General Ríos Montt is a former presidential candidate, who stood for election in 1974 with the backing of the Christian Democrats.

Senior Siskiera Otero was a vice-presidential candidate in the election held earlier this month, when he was on the ticket of the National Liberation Movement.

Guatemala has been under military rule for several years, and has one of the worst records of repression in Latin America. It is estimated that at least 3,500 people died in political violence last year, and guerrillas have gained strength.

Salvador threat, page 6

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Does Your Memory Fail You?

A WORLD-FAMOUS memory expert, who has trained industrialists, trades unionists, businessmen, professional men, salesmen, housewives and students to improve their memories, said recently:

"Many people are embarrassed by a poor memory, and find difficulty in concentrating; whilst others realize that they lose business, academic and social opportunities not only because they cannot remember accurately everything they see, hear or read, but also because they cannot think or express their thoughts, clearly, logically and concisely. Some seek advice, but many do not, mainly because they believe their memories cannot be improved."

According to this remarkable man, anyone—regardless of his present skill—can, in just 15 minutes a day, improve his memory and concentration to a remarkable degree. For example, you need never forget another appointment ever! You can learn names, faces, facts, figures and foreign languages faster than you ever thought possible. You will be able to imprint whole books on your memory after a single reading. You'll be more successful in your studies and examinations. At parties and dinners you'll never again be at a loss for appropriate words or entertaining stories. In fact, you'll be more poised and self-confident in everything you say and do.

Free

To acquaint all readers of The Times with the easy-to-follow rules for developing skill in remembering, we, the publishers, have printed full details of this interesting self-training method in a fascinating book, "Adventures in Memory", sent free on request. No obligation. No salesman will call. Just fill in and return the coupon on Page 4 (you don't even need to stamp your envelope) or write to Memory and Concentration Studies, (Dept. TSMG), FREEPOST 38, London W1E 6QZ.

WHAT THIS FREE BOOK WILL SHOW YOU

- How to remember names and faces!
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- How to learn faster!
- How to concentrate!
- How to overcome absent-mindedness!
- How to increase your personal efficiency!
- How to speak fluently without notes!
- How to succeed in examinations!
- How to develop a powerful memory!

New Technique

And yet, he went on to explain, he has devised a new, simple technique which can

Selling no smoke without desire

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

An unpublished section of a United States report on cigarette advertising, which has been passed to the British Government, shows the methods employed by a leading cigarette company to persuade young people to start smoking and how advertising techniques are geared to undercut health warnings.

That is in contrast to the statement, issued last month by Mr. Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, announcing a £2m grant from the tobacco industry for research into health promotion, when he said that cigarette advertising was "a major cause of health and was particularly dangerous to young people."

The section, drawn up by the Federal Trade Commission, using information from a survey of the cigarette industry, aims to show consumers a rationalisation for smoking and a means of expressing their health concerns about it.

It says: "For the young starter, a cigarette is associated with introduction to sex life, with courting, with smoking, and keeping late study hours."

It recommends: "To the best of your ability, considering some legal constraints, relate the cigarette to 'love', wine, beer, sex, etc. Don't communicate health or health-related points."

The section of the report, which was entitled "Levant on the Cigarette Advertising Investigation, May, 1981," was never published because the commission is not allowed to publish material based on subpoenaed documents. It says that many of the recommendations of the market research company were taken on board by Brown and Williamson in marketing cigarettes in the United States.

In a document from Brown and Williamson on the marketing of their Viceroy brand, the company says: "Smokers perceive cigarette smoking as dangerous to their health, given their awareness of the smoking and health situation, they are faced with the fact that they are behaving illogically."

They respond to this inconsistency by providing relief, with either rationalization for smoking, or by repressing their perceptions of the possible dangers involved. To date, major full flavour brands have either consciously or unconsciously conceded to the smoking and health situation.

Brown and Williamson suggest a "feels good" campaign, providing a justification for Continued on back page, col 4

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Price freeze worries farmers

The National Farmers' Union expressed dismay at yesterday's announcement that there will be no increase in the guaranteed prices for potatoes or wool (Our Agriculture Correspondent writes).

Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food told the Commons that the potato price for 1982 would remain at £44.64 a ton and that the Potato Marketing Board would be able to purchase up to 600,000 tons and remove them from the market in the event of a glut.

Millionaire is cleared

Mr Oliver Cutts, aged 62, a self-made millionaire, handed brochures advertising Rhine cruises to members of a jury at Dorchester Crown Court, after being cleared of assault yesterday. A former coalman, he had worn morning dress throughout the seven-day trial. He denied indecently assaulting his sister-in-law, Mrs Jennifer Hankin, of Parsonage Drive, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, and assaulting Mr John Hankin, her husband, and Mrs Ann Taylor, aged 39, of Avonmead, Fordingbridge.

£200m cost of winter

Britain's harsh winter will cost about £200m in insurance payouts. It is the largest figure ever recorded for a natural disaster in the United Kingdom, the British Insurance Association announced yesterday. The final sum could well be higher. Most are claims for damage caused by burst pipes, but there have also been many claims for damage to machinery. Claims are still being received.

Abortion role in Ireland

A referendum is to be held in the Irish Republic this year on a constitutional amendment to prevent abortions ever being allowed in the state.

A vigorous campaign is expected in the build-up to the referendum, but public opinion is vehemently against abortion. Last year, official figures showed that 3,300 Irish women had abortions in Britain, but unofficial figures are understood to be at least three times higher.

Stewardess with smile bows out

Roz Hanby, aged 30, British Airways smiling stewardess, who has been the central character in the airline's advertising campaign for seven years, was given a farewell party at Heathrow airport, London, yesterday when she "flew the flag" for the last time.

From next month she will present a television show called *That Morning Feeling*. In her time as a stewardess she has flown half a million miles and visited 50 countries.

Nervous Tories and Labour attack Jenkins

From Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent, Glasgow

The Conservative and Labour camps yesterday exposed their extreme nervousness over the result of tomorrow's by-election in Glasgow, Hillhead, by launching highly personalised attacks on Mr Roy Jenkins, the Social Democratic Party/Alliance candidate.

With the latest Scottish opinion poll putting Mr Jenkins four points ahead of a second-placed Conservative, and with canvass returns showing a steady erosion of the Labour vote, both parties yesterday concentrated their fire on the man described by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, as a "colour supplement socialist".

Mr Bruce Millan, Glasgow, Craighall, and a member of the Shadow Cabinet, told Labour's morning press conference: "There is a considerable feeling that we do need an active local MP in this area."

He added, in a reference to Sir Tam Galbraith, the former Conservative member who died in January: "The fact is that it is a constituency that has suffered very considerably from neglect, to put it frankly, from its former MP for a very large number of years."

Mr Millan said: "There is a strong feeling that Mr Jenkins is an outsider with no real interest in the constituency. He had, incidentally, a poor reputation as a constituency member in Birmingham when he was a member there."

I don't believe that he is interested in Glasgow, Scotland, or in the local issues."

Mr Millan, a former Secretary of State for Scotland, told a questioner: "If people who neglected their constituencies never got re-elected, we would have had a change in Hillhead many, many years ago."

"I do not want to attack Sir Tam Galbraith, but anyone who knows the area knows that it was not a well looked after constituency."

Mr David Wiseman, the Labour candidate, followed up a powerful public meeting addressed by Mr Wedgwood Benn in the constituency on Monday, by emphasising yet again that he was not a Bennite.

He said: "I do not believe in everything that Mr Benn stands for. I do not believe in him being the great Messiah. That is what Bennite means."

I am not a Bennite. I do not believe that he would classify himself as a Bennite."

Mr Gerald Malone, the Conservative candidate, attacked Mr Jenkins at his morning press conference. He said that his opponent was a southerner. "Mr Jenkins is not standing for Hillhead because he wants to represent Hillhead, but because he wants to get back into Parliament. Hillhead just happened to be there. I sincerely believe that Hillhead deserves a greater commitment than that."

But when Mr Millan's attack on the former Conservative member was reported, Mr Malone replied: "I do not believe that I want to discuss anything that might have happened or not happened in the past."

"My view is that I am not only prepared to be a hard working MP in Westminster, but I will consistently return to my home in the constituency."

Only when pressed did Mr Malone add that there was a great fund of personal respect and affection for Sir Tam, who first won Hillhead in a by-election in 1948.

Mr Malone added: "Perhaps when he was elected, there were different expectations of an MP. The new expectations I will certainly fulfil."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer told the press conference that if the by-election was put into perspective, halfway through a Parliament at a time when the Government was following "difficult policies" it was perhaps surprising that the Conservative candidate should have a solid, substantial prospect of success just two days before polling.

Sir Geoffrey refused to comment on yesterday's report in *THE TIMES* that the Government had set a target of 9 per cent real cut in council spending for 1983-84. He said: "The precise pattern of the reduction in local government spending has yet to be decided."

"But what is undoubtedly the case is that if local government, like any other part of government, spends more than is sensible, then it is likely to lead to an increase in rates or an increase in interest rates, both of which are bad for industry on which local government in the end depends."

Alliance warning over 'double'

From Jonathan Willis, Glasgow

Mr Roy Harris Jenkins grows "daily more confident of victory" at Hillhead, but he is clearly worried by the threat from Mr Roy Harold Jenkins, formerly Mr Douglas, whose name will appear immediately above his on the ballot papers tomorrow.

The SDP/Liberal Alliance campaign managers are so concerned that they have put out a leaflet warning supporters against voting for the wrong man by mistake. It says that Mr Parkin changed his name "to try to confuse the voters."

The real Mr Jenkins is also displeased with Mr Gerald Malone, the Conservative candidate. Mr Jenkins says Mr Malone has misrepresented his views on private education. Mr Jenkins says that his position is that "the right of parents to send their children to private schools is a legitimate human freedom that must be preserved."

Mr Jenkins faltered yesterday when, for the second time in two weeks, he was asked by a reporter where he stood on taxing social security and unemployment benefits. Did he have a policy?

"Not that I am announcing this morning, no." The position had been stated in the Commons by the party spokesman, Mr Michael Thomas. What was that position? "I cannot remember."

Then, after consultation, Mr Jenkins agreed that he was in favour of taxing benefits. Mr Jenkins was on firmer ground when he spoke about devolution for Scotland. The SDP commitment was clear, he said, and stemmed quite naturally from the party's general philosophy.

On cuts in local authority budgets he said that although there had been some "fat" in council spending, he thought that the cuts had gone too deep. That was inflicting "severe blows on very necessary and valuable services such as housing."

Mr Jenkins deplored the Conservatives' attempt to make law and order "a great party issue". He also criticised the Conservative candidate for joining in the "sniping" against Mr William Whitlaw, the Home Secretary.

May 1979 result: Hillhead, G. (Lab) 12,366; Malone, G. (Con) 10,336; Jenkins, G. (SDP) 8,050; Cumberley, G. (Ind) 3,002.

Before the election, Mr Alderson will present his final annual report containing the crime figures which his supporters believe will demonstrate that far from being incompatible, community policing enhances a force's ability to tackle crime.

In a statement issued yesterday Mr Alderson, re-



Four stamps featuring British youth organizations that have grown worldwide go on sale today: Boy's Brigade (15p), Girl's Brigade (15p), the Scouts (26p) and Guides and Brownies (26p).

Figures likely to back Alderson

By Craig Seton

One of the highest crime detection rates in Britain is expected to be reported soon by Devon and Cornwall police, whose chief constable, Mr John Alderson, was reportedly criticised by Mr William Whitlaw, the Home Secretary, on Monday.

It is understood that the crime statistics for the south-west force for 1981 will show crimes cleared up at the rate of 42 per cent for the Metropolitan police.

Opponents of tougher policing measures which are being urged on Mr Whitlaw are likely to use the figures to vindicate Mr Alderson's well-publicised belief in community policing to which Mr Whitlaw referred and which has earned Mr Alderson a reputation as a "soft" policeman.

Mr Alderson was modest yesterday in his response to reports that Mr Whitlaw had told a meeting of Conservative back-benchers on the law-and-order issue that he was fed up hearing about community policing and that policemen "ought to be able to do it at the same time as catching criminals".

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turning to the claim by Mr James Moynaux, leader of the Official Unionist Party, that a CIA unit was operating in the province Mr Prior said he had no evidence to support it. Asked if he thought the OUI leader was talking nonsense, he replied: "Yes."

In government circles Mr Moynaux's allegations about the CIA and other sinister groups who might be behind political murder in the United Kingdom, are being greeted with incredulity.

Even Official Unionists are astonished at Mr Moynaux's claims and the manner in which they were made for he is not renowned in the province as a leader who keeps a high profile. The United States State Department has dismissed them as outrageous.

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BLACKS MAY SUE POLICE ON CRIMES

By a Staff Reporter

A black organization is threatening to sue the Metropolitan Police to the Attorney General for possible legal action because it gave the colour of offenders in crime figures released earlier this month. The West Indian Standing Conference is asking the Commission for Racial Equality to refer the matter to Sir Michael Havers, QC and says if the CRE fails to act it will do so.

Mr Joseph Hunt, the conference general secretary said yesterday that they wanted the Attorney General to approve a prosecution under the Public Order Act on the ground that the police had incited people to racial hatred.

Section 5 says that a person commits an offence if he publishes or distributes written matter which is threatening, abusive or insulting.

Mentmore painting of the Armada makes £11,880

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A brightly coloured gouache of the Spanish Armada, with the burning of the boats at Calais in the background, sailed through Christie's yesterday securing a bid of £11,880 (estimate, £3,000 to £4,000) from Spink's. It is ascribed by Christie's to the Flemish school and dated around 1610, some 20 years after the event depicted.

It was sent for sale by Eva, Countess of Rosebery, with four other gouaches from the celebrated collection formed by Baron Meyer de Rothschild for Mentmore. The group also included an outstandingly attractive view of an imaginary Mediterranean seaport by Johann Wilhelm Baur, dated to the 1640s, which sold to D. Tunick, from New York, at £7,020 (estimate £3,000 to £4,000).

The drawings sale included a Farinagiano study of a youth at £11,880 (estimate £4,000 to £5,000) which had belonged successively to Sir Peter Lely and Sir Joshua Reynolds. It came to Christie's from a private source, still in the old Sotheby's wrapper from an auction in 1866 when it sold for 11 shillings.

There was an unexpected casualty, a Rembrandt brown ink drawing of "Moses and the Burning Bush" unsold at £3,000. The faded condition of the drawing appears to have put off bidders. That was the main contributor to the 18 per cent of the total left unsold.

At Christie's South Kensington The Royal Scottish Museum spent £1,600 (estimate £500 to £800) on the robes of a Knight of the Bath worn by Rear-Admiral Sir Thomas Goves at his installation in 1803. The set is unusually complete, including his boots and a plumed "bonnet" as well as a 1787 edition of the Statutes.

Business is brisk for London taximen

By Michael Bailly, Transport Correspondent

London's taxi drivers were doing a brisk trade yesterday, the second day of doubled fares on buses and Underground trains.

Business should have been slack because of the spring weather that enveloped the capital. But it was well up to last week's levels and drivers are expecting even better things as the implications of the new high fares sink in.

"We are back to the position where three or four people can jump into a cab for less than it will usually cost them by Tube," a drivers' spokesman said yesterday.

Meanwhile all was calm on the buses and Underground with no disturbances by "won't pay" campaigners and passengers apparently accepting the new fares.

Traffic was noticeably down by between a fifth and a tenth, with short-distance travellers particularly staying off the buses; a marked shift in London's travel patterns is apparently under way.

Daily journeys in the capital up to last weekend were broadly as follows: Foot and bicycle (journeys of more than 100 yards) 12 million; car and motor cycle (drivers and passengers) 10 million; Bus four million; Underground two million; railway 1½ million; taxi half million.

As a result of higher fares, bus journeys are expected to decrease by about 800,000 or a fifth, and Tube journeys by 200,000 or tenth, and those million journeys are expected to be redistributed as follows: To foot and bicycle 400,000; to car and motor cycle 200,000; trip cancelled 200,000; to railway 100,000; to taxi 100,000.

A report on road pricing as a means of keeping traffic on the lower free road of the Greater London Council this week.

Mr David Wetzel, chairman of the GLC transport committee, emphasized that the council does not support road pricing any more than its predecessor — it prefers low public transport fares. The system requires fixed payments for entering the central area on a weekly or monthly basis.

Butcher in horse flesh case jailed

From Our Correspondent, Bradford

A wholesale butcher was jailed for six months and fined £7,500 and costs of £4,350 were imposed by magistrates at Bingley, West Yorkshire, yesterday when five men and a meat firm were convicted after an eight-day trial involving a total of 83 offences including knacker meat and horse flesh.

The magistrates were told that unfit meat which should have gone to a pet food factory went to a firm of wholesale butchers.

After the case, Mr Fred Binley, principal environmental health officer for Bradford, said: "It is high time that the law was updated. Derek Frank Carman of Lee Lane, Cottingham, Bingley, West Yorkshire, who was convicted of 10 offences, was jailed for six months and fined £750. His company, Brighouse Meats Ltd, of Armitage Road, Brighouse, West Yorkshire, which is now in liquidation, was fined £1,540, and given a six-month sentence, suspended for two years.

Ramsay Timmins of Stainburn Road, Stainburn, Workington, Cumbria, who was convicted of 18 offences, was fined £1,540, and given a six-month sentence, suspended for two years.

His sons, Stephen Timmins of High Harrington, Workington, and David Timmins of Garsdale Farm Cottages, Distington, near Workington, were each fined £1,780. They were also convicted of 18 offences each.

All five men and the company were ordered to pay £750 costs each.

Science report

Oil flow may give pipes the 'bends'

By the Staff of "Nature"

When is a pipeline bent more readily by a small rather than a larger external force? When is it carrying a sufficiently fast-flowing stream of oil. This is the paradoxical prediction of an investigation of pipeline systems carried out by J. M. T. Thompson of the Department of Civil Engineering at University College, London.

Dr Thompson makes the obvious point that the prediction, which has been confirmed by experiment, has a potentially important bearing on the stability of submarine pipeline structures in the North Sea.

This paradoxical behaviour of mechanical systems are more readily distorted by large than by small external forces. But a pipe carrying a sufficiently fast flow of liquid will exhibit, on Dr Thompson's prediction, the opposite behaviour, called "negative stiffness". A bent pipe will tend to be straightened by the application of even a small force that would be expected to have the opposite effect. A larger "bent" force will tend further to straighten the bent pipe.

The account of this curious behaviour now published says that it is possible to demonstrate the predicted paradoxical behaviour by means of a flexible hosepipe hanging freely and carrying a sufficiently fast flow of water. In such a case, the deflecting force might be supplied by means of a string attached more or less horizontally to the lower free end of the hosepipe and connected over a pulley to a freely hanging scale-pan to which weights might be added. The prediction is that the addition of larger weights to the free scale-pan would tend further to straighten the pipe.

The explanation for this surprising phenomenon depends critically on the speed with which liquid is flowing through the pipe. When the flow is slow, the behaviour of the pipe will be that predicted by commonsense, with small external forces producing small deflections and larger forces producing larger deflections. But if the speed of the flow is great enough, this behaviour will be reversed.

The underlying reason is that the flow of liquid around bends in the pipe generates centrifugal forces on the walls of the pipe hose. The net effect of the forces, other things being equal, is to tend to compress the pipe. Simple calculations, confirmed by experiment, suggest that the stiffness of a flexible system will be determined by the square of the velocity of the liquid flowing through it, and that there will be some critical velocity above which the phenomenon of negative stiffness appears.

These predictions obviously have bearings on the calculation of the properties of pipes carrying flowing oil, as in the North Sea, but do not in themselves imply that these structures would be unstable. But it does appear that if the velocity of the flow is greater than the critical velocity at which the negative stiffness appears, flexible pipeline systems are liable to flutter, as with the loose ends of a garden hosepipe when the flow of water is fast enough, with potentially disastrous results. What large amounts of oil are involved.

Source: *Nature*, (March 11, Vol 296, p. 135) 1982. © Nature-Times News Service 1982.

CORRECTION

Mr James Sillars was wrongly described as the Social Democratic Party vice-chairman in our Hillhead report yesterday. He is vice-chairman of the Scottish National Party.

Overseas selling prices
Belgium £ 25; Canada \$ 25; France \$ 25; Germany \$ 25; Italy \$ 25; Japan \$ 25; Netherlands \$ 25; Norway \$ 25; Spain \$ 25; Sweden \$ 25; Switzerland \$ 25; USA \$ 25; UK £ 25; West Germany \$ 25; Yugoslavia \$ 25.

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Science report

Oil flow may give pipes the 'bends'

The Staff of "Nature" has a pipeline bent more readily by a smaller force than a larger one. When carrying a fast-flowing oil, the prediction of the investigation of pipeline bending is that the pipeline will be bent more readily by a smaller force than a larger one. When carrying a fast-flowing oil, the prediction of the investigation of pipeline bending is that the pipeline will be bent more readily by a smaller force than a larger one.

Right to stage sit-in upheld in Plessey case

From Our Correspondent, Edinburgh

Plessey workers who staged an eight-week occupation at the Bathgate factory in an attempt to save their jobs have won a legal victory at the Court of Session in Edinburgh although their action ended last week.

The appeal judges have upheld the decision taken by Lord Kincaid last month that the workers had legal right under section 13 of the Trade Union Labour Relations Act to continue their occupation because it was in furtherance of a union dispute. The judges had heard an appeal on behalf of Plessey management against Lord Kincaid's ruling.

The workers had denied the management claim that the consequences of the workers' trespass on the premises interfered with trade. Lord Kincaid said the court was unable to say that Lord Kincaid had erred. The balance of convenience was against the granting of the interim interdict banning the workers from continuing the occupation.

In particular the court had in mind that even if there had been no occupation the management would have suffered the same loss as the great bulk of that caused by the strike.

Mr Alan Rodger, counsel for Plessey, asked the court to leave the appeal to the Lords against the decision. He said that those instructing him were concerned about the decision which had been reached by the judges and the effect it would have.

Refusing leave to appeal to the Lords, Lord Emslie said that the court was simply dealing with a judge's decision on the question of whether it had been shown that the judge had erred in his undoubted discretion. The court was of the opinion that he had not. Lord Emslie said that they refused the appeal because the matter was no longer a "live issue".

Yesterday Lord Emslie, the Lord President, sitting with Lord Cameron and Lord Avonside, said the court of appeal had not been persuaded that Lord Kincaid had misdirected himself in law in lifting an interdict which banned the workers from sitting in and allowing them to continue their protest.

Lord Emslie said that Section 13 (2) of the Act read together with Section 30, seemed to say that an act done in furtherance of a trade dispute did not give ground for a law suit as a "wrongful or negligent act giving rise to liability".

James Sillars, vice-chairman of the Scottish National Party, said: "This is an historic judgment which not only vindicates the Plessey workers but establishes the principle of industrial action as a legitimate tactic for Scottish workers facing redundancy and closure." He said the Plessey management had suffered yet another rebuff and it was time it changed its "deplorable approach" to industrial relations.



Mr. Owen Glyn Williams at the entrance

Tussle over treasure caves

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

A court will be asked later this year to force the Government to surrender its claim to large chambers deep inside a Welsh mountain which are designated to store Britain's art treasures in a national emergency.

Although they have been empty since the last war, the silence of the chambers is broken each day by the soft hum of air conditioning equipment, which maintains a constant temperature in the five brick buildings in the caverns.

Inside the chambers, each 100ft long by 20ft wide, are rows of wooden frames designed to store paintings from London galleries.

The entrance to the chambers is almost 2,000 feet up Manod Mountain, which dominates the site. The entrance is reached by a steep, narrow road, which is reached by a steep, narrow road, which is reached by a steep, narrow road.

Mr. Williams doubts whether even Manod Mountain could protect art treasures in the event of a war. "The situation has changed completely since the last time, when I suppose it did make sense to store the paintings there. At that time paintings from the National Gallery and treasures from the British Museum were moved to the chambers after the fall of France. They remained there until 1946."

"Now, however, I believe this area would be a target for attack, for it is ringed by nuclear and hydro-electric power stations, which generate enough power to serve a city the size of London."

The chambers which contain the paintings are guarded by a huge door, which is always locked. Two full-time employees, who service the air conditioning units and other equipment refused to comment on their work.

Mr. Frank Allau, Labour MP for Salford, East, has tried to pursue the affair, but with little success. Mr. William Whitlaw, the Home Secretary, has written to him, but as the letter is confidential Mr. Allau cannot disclose its contents. Nevertheless, Mr. Allau said: "There are all kinds of rumours surrounding these chambers and I think people have a right to know what is going on."

Mr. Dafydd Thomas, the Plaid Cymru MP for Merioneth, said: "It is scandalous that a government is preparing to use these chambers to store the art treasures of England at the expense of the ordinary people of Wales."

The Department of the Environment refuses to discuss the matter because it maintains it is sub judice.



A wartime photograph of the chambers

Pickpocket's car to be sold

From Our Correspondent, San Francisco

A pickpocket who bought a car for \$5,500 from the proceeds of her crimes yesterday lost an action in the High Court against Sir David McNeen, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, for the vehicle's return after her release from prison.

Mr Justice Milmo told Mrs Jeanette Solomon that she could not have her car back and was not entitled to damages over its detention.

Mrs Solomon, aged 30, of Chiswick Avenue, Tottenham, Heath, Surrey, was jailed for two years in 1978 after being convicted of conspiracy to steal. At the time of her arrest, she lived in a flat in Lee Green, south London, and was a member of a group of pickpockets who stole from shoppers in the Oxford Street area of London's West End, the court was told.

Mrs Solomon bought the car in August, 1976 from a car dealer in Berkeley Square, Mayfair, with money from a stolen car. She used the car to drive into the West End and to return home. During police questioning, she admitted having bought it with money stolen from a car. She was told that the car was stolen from a car park at Marble Arch, in the West End, but the police refused.

After dismissing Mrs Solomon's action, Mr Justice Milmo said his decision did not mean the police could keep the car. They were bound by legal regulations to dispose of stolen property. Lawyers for the police said later that the car would be sold and the proceeds given to charity.

In an action against the police, Mrs Solomon did not contest their right to seize the car at the time of her arrest, but claimed that, once the criminal proceedings against her were over, they had no right to retain it.

Mr Justice Milmo ruled that, under the Theft Act, 1968, the car represented the stolen money with which Mrs Solomon had obtained it and was therefore "stolen goods".

Extradition case opens on IRA man

From Our Correspondent, San Francisco

A hearing of a request for the extradition to Britain of William Quinn, who is wanted in connection with inquiries into the murder of a London policeman, opened in San Francisco with the testimony of an expert on political violence, who has spent four months a year for 16 years with the IRA in the Irish Republic.

Dr John Bowyer Bell, a consultant of the effects of political violence, drew parallels between the IRA and separatist movements which he had personal contact in a dozen African and European countries. Almost all of the strategies used by the IRA, he said, were identical to those of the Mau Mau, had been invented by the IRA, he said.

He described how a deliberate separation had been maintained between the military and political structure of the IRA, as it was in the Mau Mau. The IRA group in Palestine.

Dr Bell, who has taught at Columbia University and Harvard, told Mr Justice Langford, the magistrate: "I stand wars, revolutions and coups. But his account of an IRA change of policy in Britain and Northern Ireland in the early 1970s drew aggressive cross-examination from Mr Mark Zanides, District Attorney representing the British Government."

Dr Bell described a shift from military and national security targets for bombing to "commercial" ones such as Aldershot railway station. Mr Zanides interjected.

Dr Bell was pressed to concede that no thought was given to the political implications of the bombing. "It was random and random," Dr Bell replied, "but it had a point."

Mr Richard Harvey, for the defence estimated that 83 per cent of all convictions in Northern Ireland were founded on evidence gained in confessions.

The hearing continues.

JAPAN SET TO REJECT WHALE BAN

By Nicholas Timmins

Japan looks set to reject moves by conservationists to halt its catch of sperm whales in the North-west Pacific, even if the meeting of the International Whaling Commission, which opens in Brighton today, resolves that the catch should cease.

A decision by Japan to continue the hunt against the wishes of the majority of the commission could jeopardize the future of the commission and would lead to pressure on the United States Government to impose fishery sanctions on Japan.

At present Japan takes 890 whales from a population of at least 200,000 adult sperm whales, all within 200 miles of its coastline.

Under the commission's complex management procedure a case can be made that the whale population can recover. But the scientific evidence is insufficiently clear for either the Japanese, who want to continue the hunt, or the conservationists, who want to stop it, to make out a case.

As a result, the Japanese will argue from one set of figures that the catch can continue without doing long-term damage to the population. The conservationists, however, will argue from other figures that key sections of the population will still decline over the next decade, even if no whales are caught, although in the longer term they will recover.

Mr. Kamei Yonezawa, the Japanese commissioner to the IWC meeting, claimed yesterday that "the science is obviously on our side" and that the catch should be allowed to continue.

Heseltine praises dock site regeneration

From John Chartres, Liverpool

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, yesterday described the budget for the Liverpool International Garden Festival of 1984 as "a major act of commitment" for the beleaguered area for which he has had special responsibility since last year's riots.

He was among nearly two hundred people who boarded the ferry, "Royal Iris", to view the work which has been done in converting 250 acres of derelict dockland into the garden festival site. The land is between the Royal Dock and Offshore Promenade: it is hoped that the site will remain after 1984 and perhaps attract more industry and jobs.

The 1984 festival, which will involve investment of £13m, but which is expected to break even, is the first project by the one-year-old Merseyside Development Corporation to come close to fruition. It will be opened between April and October 1984 and is expected to attract three million visitors.

The two-mile long, half-mile wide strip of land alongside the now quiet, ship-deserted Mersey will contain a modern British garden, possibly Japanese, Italian, Jacobean and Victorian gardens, a special area to give the disabled and the blind pleasure, a children's garden and a "teaching garden". The features will include exhibition buildings which will be converted later to indoor sports stadiums, restaurants, and public houses.

Although the organizers have only two years to shift the existing debris, lay about half a million tons of topsoil and create a garden of a high standard all concerned in yesterday's event expressed confidence that that would be achieved. Indeed, in the "international garden festival circuit" Liverpool has been granted full status already in competition against bids from Nice, Nantes, Vienna and Chicago.

Mr Heseltine emphasized that the garden festival was the only one of many projects being undertaken by the development corporation, which is trying to regenerate a total of 865 acres of derelict dockland, and whose creation was first viewed with suspicion by the existing local authorities.

Passengers give thumbs down to BA

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

British Airways is the airline and London, Heathrow, the airport most international air travellers would prefer to avoid, a survey by the International Airline Passengers Association shows.

But both recorded significant improvements since the association's last survey two years ago, and although many travellers did not like BA, many others did like it, the survey found.

Of the top ten polled Swissair came out as the most preferred airline with BA in fourth place. Two years ago BA was the most popular with Swissair in second place. But whereas in 1979 23.7 per cent of respondents to the poll thought BA the worst international airline, only 14.6 thought so last year.

Heathrow recorded a similar improvement with 30.7 per cent voting it the worst in 1979 and only 20.1 per cent doing so last year.

The survey went out to 40,000 of the association's 100,000 members, and of these 7,000, mostly senior businessmen, replied. About a third of those were British but did not invalidate the result, the association said yesterday.

British Airways was the most used but least liked airline internationally, whereas American Airlines was both the most used and most preferred. United States domestic airline. Cabin attendants and service generally were the main determinants of choice.

British Airways said last night: "It is inevitable that the world's biggest international airline carrying 16 million passengers a year should attract some criticism, yet of fewer than 1,000 European respondents less than 15 per cent voted BA as the airline most to be avoided."

"We prefer to measure criticism by comments received direct from our own passengers, which was the lowest on record during 1981."

Other points from the survey were:

The Boeing 747 jumbo is by far the most popular international aircraft because of roominess and comfort, followed by the DC10, Airbus and Tri-Star. Least popular was the Trident, followed by the DC10, Boeing 707 and Douglas DC8.

Cabin staff attitudes were the most important factor on both short and long flights, but food was second on long flights, and baggage arrangements on short flights.

After Heathrow, New York/Kennedy was the least popular airport, followed by Los Angeles, Cairo and Bombay. Most popular were Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Zurich and Singapore.

Concorde's popularity seems to be slipping, with only 42 per cent preferring to fly it compared with 50 per cent two years ago.

International Airline Preference/Avoidance

For international flights, respondents were asked to specify the airline they would prefer to fly and the airline they would prefer not to fly

Airline preference	1981	1979	Airline avoidance	1981	1979
Swissair	1,080	21.7	British Airways	964	14.6
Singapore	1,058	13.7	Aeroflot	653	9.9
Alitalia	688	8.1	Alitalia	453	6.8
British Airways	604	7.8	Pan Am	550	8.5
Delta	584	8.8	Delta	500	7.2
Canary Pacific	358	4.2	Southwest	202	3.1
British Caledonian	288	3.4	Egyptair	169	2.6
Qatar	258	3.7	Qatar	169	2.6
Air France	228	3.0	Pakistan	138	2.1
Other Multiple	2,102	27.4	Other Multiple	2,986	45.4
Total	7,761	100.0	Total	6,897	100.0
No Preference	48	0.6	No Preference	105	1.5
No Response	338	4.2	No Response	1,438	17.8

Both officers were awarded £25 each by the judge.

Service for the sick opens Pope's visit

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

A large congregation of disabled and sick people drawn from all over southern England will take part in a service of blessing and anointing to be conducted by the Pope in London on the day of his arrival in Britain, May 28, it was announced yesterday.

Southwark Roman Catholic Cathedral and its precincts and car park will be adapted for hundreds of stretcher cases, each of whom will be attended by a medical helper. The seriously ill will have their medical records with them so that emergency treatment can be administered if necessary, and ambulances will be available if urgent hospital care is required.

The stretcher and wheelchair patients, and those able to walk, will be accompanied by a team of nurses, doctors, attendants, and stewards, will make up a congregation of about 4,000. Some will be children, and some from non-Roman Catholic churches. Two hundred enclosures will be erected by the cathedral, and part of the service will be held outside the main building.

The central part of the service will consist of the administration of the sacrament of anointing the sick, for which the Pope will be assisted by several bishops and priests. One representative of each of the nine southern Roman Catholic dioceses taking part will receive the sacrament from the Pope personally.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Southwark, the Most Rev Michael Bowen, said yesterday that the church did not share the contemporary view that the sick and disabled were diminished in value. "We will see the Pope as 'alter Christus' - another Christ - ministering to his flock with care and compassion."

The sacrament was, until the Second Vatican Council, generally associated with the last rites for the dying, although it is now authorized for use in all cases of serious illness.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Filipinos in protest at expulsions

The Home Office was picked yesterday by a group of Filipinos, some of whom have been told to leave the United Kingdom (Lucy Hodges writes).

The Migrants Action Group, which organized the demonstration, said it was not clear why 10 of the 40 Filipinos whose cases have been decided were being expelled. Most of their cases have been taken up by the General and Municipal Workers' Union.

Almost 400 Filipinos have been threatened with removal over the past two years. They have been accused of illegally entering Britain because of alleged irregularities in their work permit applications when they first came here.

The Home Office says that they have either concealed the existence of children they should have declared or that false references were supplied for them. The Migrants Action Group says that most of them were unaware that such action was practised on their behalf.

Judge praises police couple

Police constable Leslie Johnston and his girl friend, WPC Christine Richardson, both aged 21, were commended by Judge Abela, QC, in the Central Criminal Court yesterday for tackling an armed robber.

They were off duty, when they heard a cry for help and took up the chase, the gunman aimed at them but they brought him down.

Michael Travers, aged 27, barman, of Talbot Road, Winton, Dorset, was jailed for six years and nine months after pleading guilty to robbing two Arab women of cash and jewelry worth about £3,000, possessing a replica Colt 45 revolver and assaulting another officer.

Both officers were awarded £25 each by the judge.

Barrister is disbarred

Mr Everard Layton Hyslop, a barrister has been disbarred and expelled from the Middle Temple, the Senate of the Inns of Court and the Bar it was announced yesterday.

A charge of professional misconduct was heard against Mr Hyslop, in his absence. The Senate's disciplinary tribunal found the charge proved after receiving evidence that Mr Hyslop had been convicted of dishonestly obtaining cheques.

Labour choice

Mr Alan Griffiths, aged 28, an Oxford University law don, has been chosen by Labour to fight the Pembroke seat of Sir Nicholas Edwards, the Secretary of State for Wales, at the next general election. Mr Griffiths will be trying to overturn a 7,000 majority.

Fire victim dies

Mrs Jane Elizabeth Mourby, aged 97, who was badly burnt in a fire at her home in Salop Road, Walspool, on Monday, died in Shrewsbury Hospital yesterday. The fire was discovered by an off-duty ambulance man.

CORRECTION

Mr. Jones, who was asked to go to the ministerial office and they are hoping for a quick meeting. They are due to meet the management again for further talks in two weeks. Mr. Bob Jones, National Officer of the National Union of Public Employees, said yesterday that the £27m that the health authorities will have to contribute as part of the extra funding agreed by the Government will lead to cuts in services and patients' care and could mean the loss of up to 5,400 jobs in the National Health Service.

A risk of industrial action by nurses is now "a distinct possibility", Mr David Williams, the nurses' staff side leader said last night.

The nurses have become the latest section of the one million NHS workforce to reject pay offers from the Government. Five hundred thousand ancillary workers have rejected a 4 per cent, more than 50,000 paramedics, who include physiotherapists and radiographers, have rejected 6.4 per cent and leaders of 17,000 ambulance men are expected to reject a 4 per cent offer at negotiations next Monday.

An employers' statement last night said the offer to nurses and midwives was realistic it added that the employers were determined to find more satisfactory long-term arrangements.

Under the 6.4 per cent pay offer, the basic pay of a first year student nurse would increase by £3.42 a week to £66.42, the new weekly pay for a staff nurse would be increased by £5.23 to £90.81 and a ward sister a week taking the pay to £113.50.

Nurses and ancillary workers picketed Mersey Regional Health Authority yesterday demanding a 12 per cent pay rise.

Nurses reject 6.4% offer

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

Leaders of Britain's 450,000 nurses and midwives were seeking an urgent meeting with Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Health and Social Services last night after their rejection of the Government's 6.4 per cent pay offer.

Union leaders urged health service employers to join them in an approach to the Government to seek more money for nurses this year in addition to the extra £53m which ministers have allocated.

After the rejection of that overtime the unions decided to go to the ministerial office and they are hoping for a quick meeting. They are due to meet the management again for further talks in two weeks. Mr. Bob Jones, National Officer of the National Union of Public Employees, said yesterday that the £27m that the health authorities will have to contribute as part of the extra funding agreed by the Government will lead to cuts in services and patients' care and could mean the loss of up to 5,400 jobs in the National Health Service.

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Callaghan warning on South Georgia

DIPLOMACY

It would be gross dereliction of duty for the Government to persist in withdrawing HMS Endurance from the South Atlantic, Mr James Callaghan, former Prime Minister, said during exchanges on the Argentine landing in South Georgia. Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, said that the Government was making arrangements to ensure the early departure of the six to 10 Argentines left at Leith Harbour after the landing.

Mr Luce said that recent actions had not created a helpful atmosphere and it was not sensible in that climate to discuss further progress on the Falkland Islands with the Argentine. The ship which had transported the Argentine party was a naval transport ship.

In his statement, Mr Luce said: We were informed on March 20 by the Commander of the British Antarctic Survey Base at Grytviken on South Georgia that a party of Argentines had made a landing at Leith Harbour near by.

The base commander informed the Argentine party that their presence was illegal as they had not obtained his prior authority for the landing.

We immediately took the matter up with the Argentine authorities in Buenos Aires and the Argentine Embassy in London and, following our approach, the ship and most of the personnel left on March 21. However, the base commander has reported that a small number of men and some equipment remain. We are therefore making arrangements to ensure their early departure.

Mr Denis Healey, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Leeds, East, Lab), said that Mr Luce did not refer to the Argentine party planting the Argentine flag on the island.

After his talks with Argentine representatives in New York recently the Argentine

government said that unless it got a satisfactory agreement it would take unilateral action. Has he any evidence that the recent action was in fulfilment of that threat?

Mr Luce: For a short period the Argentine flag was planted. It has been removed.

Mr Luce: The Argentine flag was planted. It has been removed.

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self-determination for the island will be a cornerstone of the Government's policy and that we will stand by it?

Mr Luce: Yes. There will be no question of any changes on the islands without the consent of the Government. Their wishes are paramount. Equally, we would not do anything without the consent of the House.

Mr James Callaghan (Cardiff, South East, Lab): Mr Luce was warned that as soon as the news of the withdrawal of HMS Endurance became known to the Argentine this sort of escapade would be likely.

Mr Nicholas Winterbottom (Macclesfield, C): The incidents of the last few days are tantamount to an invasion of an independent country whether or not the personnel were sponsored by a commercial company or not. Will Mr Luce ensure that HMS Endurance or a similar vessel remains on station in those parts?

Mr Luce: It is not for me to answer specifically for the Secretary of State for Defence about the deployment of forces.

Mr Healey: The Government has put itself in a situation where it has decided to withdraw HMS Endurance. The only option open to it is to ask the Australian government to allow HMS Invincible to spend time around the Falkland Islands on its way to serve in the Royal Australian Navy. (Laughter.)

Mr Luce: The position about our responsibility to the islands is as I have stated.

Mr Michael Morris (Northampton, South, C): What exactly is "tangible support" in South Georgia and the Falkland Islands?

Mr Luce: We will take and are taking firm action to deal with the Argentine situation.

Mr Luce: We will take and are taking firm action to deal with the Argentine situation.



Ogden: Argentine steps.



Healey: Send Invincible.

were able to land on British territory. The Argentine operation without the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the British Government, the Falkland Islands Government, the British Embassy in Buenos Aires or the British authorities in South Georgia being aware of that?

Mr Luce: There is no question of the British Government having made any concessions. There are no such things as any concessions that the British Government has made.

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Mr Luce: We have a duty to the islands. That duty is to support and defend them. What is what we shall do.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Barking, C): Apart from HMS Endurance, what other defence forces have we in this area?

Mr Luce: Although the details of the deployment of forces are the Secretary of State for Defence it would not be wrong to say that there is a garrison of British marines on the Falkland Islands as well as HMS Endurance.

Mr John Blackburn (Dudley, Walsley, C): Would it make a covenant with this House and this nation that the question of the sovereignty of these islands is not an agenda item for discussion with any foreign power?

Mr Luce: I do not know whether it would be right for me to make a covenant with anybody. We are at a disadvantage. We have British sovereignty over the Falkland Islands. It is equally certain that the Argentines claim sovereignty over the islands. This is a dispute. It would be sensible for all the parties if they were to resolve this dispute in a sensible and peaceful fashion. We cannot do that against a background of threats.

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Protests at naval training cuts

DEFENCE

Considerations are to be initiated with trade unions and, where appropriate, local authorities and other interested bodies about the proposed closure of seven Royal Dockyard establishments, Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said in a written reply.

The establishments and the dates by which they are to close are: HMS Fishguard, Torpoint, Cornwall, 1984; HMS Phoenix, Portsmouth, 1984; HMS Exmouth, Portsmouth, 1985; HMS Vernon, Portsmouth, 1986; and Fraser Guntery, Range, Portsmouth, 1986.

The establishments would also close by 1983 as part of the naval base at Chatham, the closure of which had already been announced. In addition, the function of HMS Caledonia at Rosyth will change by 1983 from that of a training establishment to that of a fleet accommodation centre. About 600 new jobs would be created at Rosyth as a result of the expansion of the dockyard.

Mr Blaker also pointed out in the reply that the policy described in the Government's White Paper *The United Kingdom Defence Programme* of reducing peacetime establishments and undertaking more training effort had the aim of releasing maximum resources for front line combat capability.

Earlier, during questions to the Ministry of Defence MPs, Mr Blaker had said that the closure of the establishments would be a painful process but that it was necessary to do so to ensure the defence of the country.

The subject was first raised by Mr Robert Mitchell (Southampton, Ipswich, SDP) who said that the closure of the establishments would be a painful process but that it was necessary to do so to ensure the defence of the country.

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should be allowed on the written answer which Mr Blaker had touched upon.

The statement that MPs whose constituents were affected would be kept in touch meant that there would be written statements of intentions which did not allow MPs freedom to question Ministers on behalf of constituents.

During a later question on the cost of Trident, Mr Luce said that the Government might pay about £8,000 to £10,000, which would come from the naval estimates of the future, was the reason a written answer was to be made because they were talking about a cutback in conventional weapons.

Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said that the announcement later today is nothing to do with Trident (Labour protests). The defence review last year took place to deal with the problems of that time when Trident was costing practically nothing.

On the naval estimates, we have a defence budget, we budget for defence priorities. We have a separate programme for Trident, which is a separate programme.

Mr Blaker: I have already answered that question.

Mr Kenneth Warren (Hastings, C): Would he confirm that not only is the Soviet army equipped with chemical weapons but they are a front line capability of the Warsaw Pact?

Mr Blaker: We know from observations of exercises that the Soviet Union is looking at nuclear, chemical and biological conditions and these have been supplied to satellite countries of the Soviet Union.

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Mr Alan Clark (Plymouth, Sutton, C): If this country wishes to make a store or deploy chemical weapons it is matter for the Government and the House to debate and discuss. But the fact that any other power might wish to store them here is not of the slightest interest of relevance.

There is also a clear qualitative distinction with the agreement that allows the United States to store nuclear weapons on this country and this cannot be invoked to cover similar facilities for chemical weapons.

Mr Blaker: I would agree with the thrust of his general argument. It is the duty of the British Government to be aware of the changing nature of the threat and to be aware of the fact that the Soviet Union have 60,000 troops specially trained and designated for chemical warfare and they have huge supplies of chemical agents that they have deployed forward.

Mr Denzil Davies (Opposition spokesman on defence (Llanelli, Lab): Why not give an assurance that the British Government will not allow the stock piling of American chemical weapons in this United Kingdom? There has been enough proliferation of nuclear weapons in Europe already without the further proliferation of chemical weapons.

Mr Blaker: I have already answered that question.

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'Healey wanted bad news'

PM's QUESTIONS

The Government believed in covering the majority of its expenditure by taxation and insurance contributions and not, as the last Government did, by a great deal of borrowing. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during questions.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) began the exchanges by asking if the Prime Minister would read the Treasury reply to a parliamentary question on the tax effects of the Budget on the average family. He invited her to confirm that successive budgets had resulted in size out of every 10 families in Britain paying substantially more taxes now than they did in 1979.

Does that not give the lie (He went on) to every promise she and her friends made at the last election? (Labour cheers.)

Mr Thatcher: This Government believes in covering the majority of its expenditure by taxation and insurance contributions and not, as the last Government did, by a great deal of borrowing. (Conservative cheers.) If he wishes to have both lower taxation and lower national insurance contributions he must show precisely where he would cut expenditure, and in particular, if he wishes to have lower national insurance contributions, where he would cut pensions and other benefits.

Mr Denis Healey, Deputy Leader of the Opposition (Leeds, East, Lab): May I thank her for allowing the Treasury to admit

that it has already broken the major promise in which she on the last election to cut taxes? (Renewed Labour cheers.) Now that the collapse of law and order under her administration has led her to change her mind, she has no influence over the amount of serious crime in Britain, will she pluck the dagger out of the Home Secretary's back, tell her supporters in Tory gutter press to cease inflaming hatred and fear on this issue and accept the advice of the Minister of Agriculture that unemployment is a major cause of the trouble in law and order and do something about the unemployment figures which are shown today to be still rising all over the country? (Further Labour cheers.)

Mr Thatcher: On his first point, this Government has had to repay a large amount of overseas debt which the last Government, under his disgraced leadership as Chancellor, left us to repay. No person has done more on the numbers and pay of the police and on morale than the Home Secretary.

The news today on unemployment is good. The numbers are down to below three million. Seasonally adjusted, United Kingdom unemployment increased by only 5 per cent, which is the lowest rise since November, 1979. I recognise that he would prefer the news to be bad. (More Conservative cheers.)

Mr Healey: On law and order and with the continuing increase in unemployment her administration is wrecking every promise

on which she won the last election. (Labour cheers.) Mrs Thatcher: I did not hear all the question, but at least my administration has not got the nation bankrupt as he did.

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, L) said later: Reverting to the rising crime figures, Mrs Thatcher should study the speech made in Glasgow, Billhead, by her predecessor, Mr Edward Heath when he pointed out that if young people are hanging around the streets, what can we expect, but an increase in crime. Does she agree that this is part of the breakdown of society under the stress of unemployment?

Mr Thatcher: It is much too simplistic a reply to say there are increased crimes because there are increases in unemployment. Certainly there is more crime today. If his argument is right, the figures would have been at their highest in the 1930s when the proportion of the population unemployed was much higher than today.

There has been a considerable increase in crime throughout a period of increasing prosperity not only in this country, but others as well.

Parliament today Commons (2.30). Questions: Scotland; Lord Advocate: Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Bill second reading. Debate on CAP proposals for 1982-83. Lords (2.30). Debate on law and order.

He suspected the Government was hiding a saving that would be made by the Bill and if that was so he wanted to know how much the saving would be.

He asked for an assurance that any money saved would be used rather than put back into the general account of the Treasury. It should be used to make improvements to the scheme.

The effect of the change in the formula would be to reduce the supplementary benefit by a half per cent less than it would otherwise have been. The Government apparently agreed with that in taking of savings of £90m. At a time when the recipients of supplementary benefit were likely to be up to £100 million for the first time, that was an unwarranted penalty on the poorest in society.

The Government ought to give an assurance it would stick by its new formula and would not abandon it if it did not prove favourable, as had happened with the tax and prices index.

The Opposition did not want a Rossi Price Index in place of the retail price index only suddenly to drop it when it worked against expectations.

If the housing costs were being taken out of the RPI because they were no longer relevant to the poorest sector, there needed to be more sensitive measurement of the weekly budget of the poorest.

The formula should be made truly representative of the poorest 25 per cent, and not skewed as it was with the RPI at present.

It had been said that simplifying the benefit scheme would produce a possibly more blundy scheme for the first few weeks but result in a saving of a thousand civil servants.

If that was still Government policy, the likely effect would be that the poor would be deprived of their rights and they would suffer from the lack of support which the Government rushed to save civil service jobs in order to show it had kept some of its pledges.

The Government could not guarantee that as a result of the Bill there would be no losers under the new scheme and said it would cost £30m to do so. That had to be set against the likely £90m, saved by introducing the new formula. The money would

New needs formula endorsed by MPs

Merger means new university for Ulster

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

But the other power might store them here in the slightest interest of defence. It is also a clear qualification with the agreement follows the United States to supply weapons on this need to cover similar facilities in chemical weapons. But I would agree with the duty of his general argument. It is the duty of the British Government to be aware of the threat and aware of the fact that the United States has 60,000 young men trained and equipped with chemical warfare and designed to supply the chemical warfare that they have developed.

The New University of Ulster at Coleraine and the Ulster Polytechnic are to merge to form a multi-site university, with a strong emphasis on vocational and continuing education, the Government announced yesterday.

The Chilver report on higher education in Northern Ireland, which was also published yesterday, advised against a merger on the grounds that it would be unlikely to achieve significant economies, would increase the dominance of Belfast institutions and would give rise to disruptive administrative difficulties.

higher education base outside Belfast. (The only other Northern Ireland university, Queen's, and the only polytechnic, are both in Belfast.) But it did not believe that the group's recommendations for Coleraine University's future work would give it a worthwhile role.

When Coleraine University was opened in 1968, it was intended that the student body would reach 5,000 by 1980. The present full-time enrolment is only 1,800.

The A level qualifications of entrants to the Ulster Polytechnic are about the same as those for Coleraine, but the polytechnic, which is

Tenants lose move to buy council home

By David Nicholson-Lord

A couple's attempt to secure their own Act of Parliament giving them the right to buy their council house has failed because an estimated 50,000 tenants are in the same position.

Mr and Mrs David Berry, of Catford, south London, submitted a personal Bill seeking to remove an acknowledged anomaly of the Housing Act, 1980, which denies to leasehold, as opposed to freehold tenants the right to buy. The Minister last month attached high priority to remedying the exclusion.



Year's wait for 20% of hip operations

Post-natal Feminism: Health Services Correspondent

By ANNE BURNHAM

One in five of those waiting for hip replacement operations has to wait more than a year, a report published today says.

In such operations have the longest waiting time of any surgical procedure undertaken by the National Health Service, and patients wait four times longer on average than for other surgery, a report from the Office of Health Economics says.

Seat belt legislation coming into effect later this year could increase the number of hip operations required, however, by reducing the demand for surgery from road accidents.

The operation which took off in the late 1960s, can transform a patient's life by relieving pain and increasing mobility. Because the results are so good, demand is high.

It is much more readily available in certain parts of the country than others. The median waiting time nationally is five months but it reaches seven months in the West Midlands, Trent and South-western regional health authorities.

The number performed per head of population also varies greatly. In 1978 the rates in Mersey, East Anglia and North-east England were under half those of Oxford, Wessex and the South-west.

About 18,000 hip replacements were performed on the NHS in 1978, the last year for which full data is available, and an estimate of 1,000 to 2,000 in the private sector.

The report says demand might be levelling off since the backlog of cases which accumulated when the service was first introduced is now apparent that the operation was successful is gradually being cleared. About 200,000 Britons are estimated to have undergone the operation, which costs about £1,200.

The Office of Health Economics, research group financed by the drug industry, says that hip replacement is not an area where the NHS has failed because demand is gradually being met and because the rate per head of population is as good as anywhere in the United States.

But it says that rates could improve if better management techniques were used to ensure that operating theatres were used more intensively. It estimates that many operating theatres are used for only 37 weeks a year.

It also recommends that a coding system be introduced to denote how badly a patient needs the operation so priorities can be worked out. The present system is too crude, with usually just one category recorded: urgent and non-urgent.

The Arthritis and Rheumatism Council yesterday deplored the fact that patients were waiting on average four times longer for hip replacements than for other operations and that "in many years this unsatisfactory and painful state of affairs still persists."

Hip replacement and the NHS, by William Laing and David Taylor
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Move to link waterways with Europe

From Ronald Kershaw, Leeds

Plans to develop the commercial potential of the canals and river systems in Yorkshire and Humbershire with the long-term objective of a water-borne link with the continental waterways are being implemented by the British Waterways Board. The impetus for the initiative is contained in the 1981 Transport Act, which, for the first time, brings commercial waterways in line with the railways for government grants.

Under the 1968 Transport Act, railway customers could receive direct grants from the Government of up to 50 per cent of the cost of rolling stock, railway lines and handling equipment, provided they could show that the goods they were carrying came from the road and that environmental benefits would accrue. Under the 1981 Act using the same criteria, the same government aid is now available to canal users for boats, handling equipment and warehousing.

Mr William Scott, the board's freight manager, north, said last night: "This is the sort of kick we have been waiting for. The Act is just putting under way and we are now looking for two applications for aid."

New study on turning rail to road

By Michael Baily
Transport Correspondent

A fresh study on converting railways to roads has been sent to Mr. Margaret Thatcher by the strike by the Associated Society of Engineers and Firemen and its disastrous effect on British Rail finances. It has been prepared by the Centre for Policy Studies, a non-party think-tank of which the Prime Minister was the first President. Sir Keith Joseph in 1974 and of which she is still an active supporter.

It argues that converting Britain's railway network into roads would save the taxpayer an immediate £1,000 a year, 2,500 lives a year, remove juggernauts from residential areas and provide cheaper and more efficient transport.

The report is also being studied by Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, for its possible application to loss-making commuter lines like that from St Marylebone to Aylesbury. Conversion there would not only save several hundred thousand pounds a year in subsidy but would also release a valuable development

Stansted 'would need top quality farmland'

From John Young, Agriculture Correspondent,
Quendon, Essex

Top quality farmland was designated by the British Airports Authority for expansion at Stansted Airport, a public inquiry into proposed development was told yesterday.

The land was well farmed and largely free from significant urbanization, planning and environmental constraints and those factors were reflected in its high output. Most of it was within the grade two classification of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Dr Ainsley Ede, an agricultural consultant giving evidence for the National Farmers' union, said.

The long-term value of high quality agricultural land to the nation could not be measured solely in terms of the capitalized value of its output, the inquiry was told.

Dr Ede said that planning acknowledged as one of its objectives the protection of high quality farmland as a national resource, its development was not permitted merely because its value for industrial or commercial use exceeded its agricultural value.

The inquiry, which entered its 23rd week yesterday, is in the midst of hearing agricultural evidence which could prove a significant influence on the Government's decision whether or not to allow the airport development.

Mr Kenneth Elliott, assistant director in the parliamentary division of the NFU, who finished giving evidence yesterday, told the inquiry last week that the development would be contrary to the objectives of agricultural policy; breach long standing regional and local planning policies to control urban development and protect the countryside; cause an excessive and unnecessary loss of high quality land; cast the shadow of blight and uncertainty over a large number of efficient and highly productive farms; and would generate constraints upon agricultural production in the area.

The national benefits of retaining the land intact as security against possible long-term food requirements outweighed the benefits of a new international airport, he



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West Bank violence

Peres attacks Begin's occupation policies

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, March 23

As violent protests and a Palestinian general strike continued throughout the West Bank for the fifth consecutive day, the Government of Mr Menachem Begin tonight faced three Knesset motions of no confidence over its policies in the occupied territories.

The parliamentary challenge reflected growing discontent among many Israelis about the repeatedly used tactic of firing live ammunition into crowds of unarmed Arab demonstrators. This has already killed two teenagers and injured at least 10 others since protests began over the dismissal of the elected council of El-Bireh last Thursday.

The opening speaker, Mr Shimon Peres, leader of the Opposition Labour Party, broadened his attack on the right-wing coalition to include its handling of the evacuation of Jewish settlers from Sinai and the deteriorating state of Israel's relations with the United States.

Replying for the Government, Mr Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister, was subjected to noisy heckling from left-wingers. He said that rather than debating false allegations against the Government, deputies should have been discussing Jordan's recent threat to

impose the death penalty on West Bank Arabs who refused to resign from the new village leagues.

Earlier, Mr Peres had been involved in a bitter exchange with Mr Sharon during a heated session of the Knesset's foreign affairs and defence committee. The opposition leader accused Mr Sharon of labelling all Israeli critics of the Government's hard-line policy as "traitors".

Throughout the day, continuing efforts by the Israeli security forces to break the strike failed to have any noticeable success, and annexed East Jerusalem 17 Arab merchants were arrested for refusing to obey a military order to reopen their shops.

While bewildered groups of foreign tourists looked on, several hundred Israeli soldiers and mounted policemen patrolled the shuttered streets and alleys near the holy places. At one point, a thick column of black smoke rose high over the walls of the old city as Arab demonstrators set fire to barricades of petrol soaked tyres. Near by, an illegal Palestinian flag was briefly raised.

With tension remaining at a pitch rarely experienced since the occupation in 1967, there were strong indications that further action by the Israelis against the most radical of the allegedly pro-Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) mayors was imminent.



Collapse of a social experiment

Zurich's AJZ, Autonomous Youth Centre, in the Limmatstrasse, was razed to the ground yesterday after its contents, including a handful of squatters, had been removed by police in the early morning (Ian McGregor writes).

Its fate was sealed a week ago

when church and social organizations responsible for its supervision withdrew on the grounds that the premises could no longer serve a constructive purpose and had become a venue for drug pushers and their clients. The municipality, which spent \$225,000 on the building last year, decided

on demolition as the only way to ensure that the centre, once a warehouse, would not again become a focal point for demonstrators with the onset of spring. Similar demolitions have taken place in recent years in other Swiss cities. The site will become a garden.

Sinai solutions 'soon'

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv, March 23

Dr Osama El-Baz, President Mubarak's special envoy on a mission to Mr Begin, conferred for two hours in Jerusalem today with the Israeli Prime Minister and forecast an early solution of all outstanding issues. He gave no details.

The most pressing is the disagreement about siting 15 border markers on the frontier. Israeli officials have given warning that it will be impossible to complete the withdrawal from Sinai on

promised to reply in a few days.

He added: "I am quite satisfied that the talks and exchange of messages that all outstanding issues will be solved in the immediate future".

Other controversies believed to have been discussed were Israel's demand that President Mubarak visit Jerusalem during a state visit and that sessions of the Palestinian autonomy negotiations be held in the capital.

Astronauts rise to the sound of music

From Piers Akerman, Houston, March 23

Colonel Jack Louma and Colonel Charles Fullerton performed a variety of tasks on board the space shuttle Columbia today to test the capabilities of the orbiter during its third mission.

The commander, Colonel Louma, who suffered motion sickness before going to sleep after the craft's first day in space, was feeling much better when awoken by a radio call from the Johnson Space Centre in Houston.

Officials of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) awoke the men with a tape of the country singer Willie Nelson singing "On the Road Again".

The first task was a test of Columbia's remote controlled manipulator arm which will be used during future flights to place satellites in orbit and retrieve equipment in orbit for return to earth in the space shuttle's cargo bay.

The astronauts said they could see damaged tiles in a small area close to the front windows on the nose of the aircraft. Mr Mark Hess, the Nasa spokesman, said there appeared to be pieces of tiles missing in six areas and that one or two entire tiles might have dislodged during the launch on Monday.

The tiles are white and are not exposed to the highest temperatures during reentry and their loss has not worried Nasa technicians.

Mr Hess said: "Later during the flight the camera on the remote manipulator arm will survey most of Columbia's top side for tile damage. We assume different areas of the craft damaged during ascent and descent and we will be able to compare the damage Columbia has suffered now with whatever damage occurs during reentry".

Colonel Fullerton turned on one of the 12 experiments in the early afternoon. The experiment is an attempt to produce urokinase from human kidney cells. Seven million frozen kidney cells and an equal number of frozen human red blood cells were taken into space for the experiment.

The kidney and blood cells were mixed with a salt water solution and subjected to an electrical current. It is hoped that the urokinase was produced as the electrical current moved through the solution. After the process was completed in about an hour, the solution was frozen for the return trip to earth.

Nun the wiser

Lourdes—Two young women police inspectors disguised as nuns, who are patrolling Lourdes to prevent visitors being robbed by pickpockets, have made numerous arrests.

Soaring defence costs worry Capitol Hill

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 23

A Pentagon report showing that the United States' 44 largest weapons projects are now expected to cost \$114,500m (about £62,500m) more than was estimated three months ago has brought new congressional criticism of the Reagan Administration's huge planned increase in defence spending.

The new estimate, which is contained in a report which the Pentagon is required by law to submit each quarter, comes when the Senate budget committee is completing its work on the 1983 budget.

Senator Peter Domenici, the committee's chairman, has indicated that while he is in favour of strengthening America's defence, he believes the Administration's \$258,000 defence budget for 1983 is too high. His committee is to call for a 5 per cent increase in defence spending compared with the 18 per cent increase proposed by the Administration.

The soaring costs of military programmes are causing concern among both Republicans and Democrats on

Capitol Hill. "If cost are rising so sharply now, what will they be like over the next few years?" remarked a congressional aide.

The cost of the new weapons systems has risen from \$340,300m to \$454,800m, an increase of 33 per cent since the last Pentagon estimates were released three months ago. The Tomahawk cruise missiles have quadrupled in price to \$12,600m, the cost of the F14 fighter jet has tripled to \$35,800m and of the F15 fighter more than doubled to \$40,600m.

According to the Pentagon, the increases reflect the impact that inflation is having on the defence sector as well as the larger quantities of weapons being ordered as part of its military build-up. Officials say that only a small portion of the increased costs referred to in the now report will be covered by the 1983 budget period.

The Pentagon claims the higher estimates were expected and will not require changes in the President's plans to spend \$1,600,000m on defence between now and 1987.



"Pepper fogging" is the current phrase for American police action in spraying tear gas at strikers, who have blocked the entrance to a precision tool factory in North Kingstown, Rhode Island for the twenty-second week.

Walesa spurns offer to leave

Warsaw, March 23.—The Polish authorities have suggested that Mr Lech Walesa, the interned Solidarity leader, should voluntarily leave Poland with his family, his wife, Danuta said today.

"Of course we refused," she said in a telephone interview from her flat in Gdansk.

An Interior Ministry spokesman said today that he was unaware of a departure offer made specifically to the Walesa family.

Stefan Bratkowski, the chairman of the disbanded Journalists' Association, was hiding or on a wanted list. "Bratkowski is neither in hiding nor wanted by anyone," Mr Eugeniusz Gus, an official commentator, affirmed. He accused Western reporters of making a legend out of Mr Bratkowski, a Communist reformer who the situation had been made worse by low supplies of domestic grain. Domestic supplies amounted to only 1,700,000 tonnes so far compared with the 3,600,000 tonnes planned. AP and

paper Dziennik Ludowy reported today. It said that Poland would be able to import only four million tonnes of grain this year compared with seven and a half million tonnes in 1981.

Mr Jerzy Wojciech, the Minister of Agriculture, said in a broadcast today that the situation had been made worse by low supplies of domestic grain. Domestic supplies amounted to only 1,700,000 tonnes so far compared with the 3,600,000 tonnes planned. AP and

Guerrillas threaten Salvador cities

San Salvador, March 23.—Left-wing guerrillas announced plans today to march on El Salvador's cities in an attempt to overthrow the American-backed junta.

The guerrilla radio, Venceremos, said: "Our forces have defeated the enemy in the countryside and now prepare for final victory by marching on the cities".

The guerrillas, who have been fighting security forces backed by extreme right-wing groups for two years, have vowed to wreck next Sunday's Constituent Assembly elections which are seen by Washington as a first step in bringing peace to the country.

In a wave of bombing attacks, guerrillas yesterday damaged or destroyed more than 20 buses in various parts of the capital in an attempt to cripple the transport system on the eve of the polls.

Venceremos called on countries supporting the guerrillas to break off diplomatic and commercial relations with the Salvadoran Government. It said the forthcoming elections were not the solution to the country's difficulties.

The guerrilla radio claimed yesterday that the United States planned to invade El Salvador and called on friendly members of the Organisation of American States (OAS) to stop "this new criminal intent".

There were unconfirmed reports that public transport in various parts of the country has been suspended or severely curtailed because of guerrilla threats to kill drivers. Up to now, the guerrilla tactics have been to order people out of buses

Gandhi warns banks not to lose trust

By Lesley Plimmer

International financial institutions should be isolated from political ideologies or risk losing the trust of the Third World, Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, told a City of London luncheon in her honour at the Mansion House yesterday.

It was a clear reference to the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, which have tightened their lending policies under the private enterprise philosophy of the Reagan Administration.

India still smarting over a \$3,000m IMF loan granted last November. The negotiations showed up continuing economic policy divisions between India and the IMF and Washington abstained on the loan question, believing that the terms were not tough enough.

After lunching yesterday on asparagus, salmon, and strawberries with Mrs Gandhi, the Lord Mayor, and Mr Denis Healey, his deputy, for private talks which a spokesman described as "very useful and interesting".

Mr Foot and Mrs Gandhi also attended an exhibition at Portland Place dedicated to her father, Jawaharlal Nehru, which includes historic unpublished photographs of the Nehru family.

Throughout the day, police, motor cycle outriders and armed guards accompanied the party, which included Sonia, wife of Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister's son and heir apparent.

India fears arming of Pakistan

From Kuldip Nayar, Delhi, March 23

India feels justified in revising its defence plans to raise the budget to \$3,000m because of the arming of Pakistan.

The Defence Ministry's annual report says that "developments in our neighbourhood have brought high power conflicts close to our doors and have obvious and grave implications for our security." The report, placed before Parliament, expresses concern at the arming of Pakistan as a "frontline state".

The transfer of advanced weapons like the F16 jet aircraft, far beyond Pakistan's legitimate defence needs, will result in a qualitative and quantitative increase in Pakistan's capability and tilt the balance in the region, the report goes on. It recalls that previous armings of Pakistan have resulted in military incursions against India (a reference to the 1965 and 1971 wars in which Pakistan used United States supplied arms against India).

The current supporters of arms to Pakistan are being justified by developments in Afghanistan but the report affirms that much of the equipment is not suitable for use on the Pakistani border.

The report also voices concern at Pakistan's efforts to achieve nuclear weapons capability. These developments cannot be disregarded, it says, though India has studied Pakistan's recent offer of non-aggression pact as objectively as possible.

India will continue to base its relations with Pakistan on the Simla agreement. The report deplores the long drawn-out war between Iran and Iraq in a region which has crucial significance for India. The developments in Afghanistan also continue to be a cause for anxiety.

Zia shows he holds the reins

From Trevor Fishlock, Islamabad, March 23

President Zia ul-Haq rode to Pakistan's National Day parade today in a landau drawn by six black horses, escorted by scarlet costed lancers.

He addressed a distant, fenced-off and largely unenthusiastic crowd on his endlessly reiterated theme of the need for the enforcement of Islam.

National Day, marking the Lahore declaration of 1940 which called for the establishment of Pakistan, is regarded as an occasion on which trouble may be created by opponents of the regime. But no incidents were reported, an indication of President Zia's firm grip on the country.

In four and a half years of power he has become skilled at nipping demonstrations and meetings in the bud by arresting organisers and ensuring that no one has time to grow into a focus of dissent.

There has been unrest in the past few weeks, leading to tightened security in the cities today. Three thousand people (the government figure) have been arrested recently and the banned political parties have demanded their release.

National Day is also a celebration of the memory of Mr Muhammad Ali Jinnah, founder of the nation. One of today's newspapers, *The Muslim*, carried a picture of him and quoted his words: "I am sure democracy is in our blood."

The newspaper carried an editorial reflecting the soul-searching which forms part of a growing debate on Pakistani identity. "That the reality of Pakistan has been contrary to the ideals of its founding fathers is a sad reflection on the quality of our national leadership over the years."

US farmers press for grain sales to Russia

From Baily Morris, Washington, March 23

The Reagan Administration is under renewed pressure from angry farmers to reopen grain talks with the Soviet Union with the aim of selling the Russians an additional nine million tonnes of corn and wheat this year.

A group of influential Congressmen has joined leaders of national farm organisations in urging President Reagan both to reopen the talks and to rule out the possibility of any future embargo on grain sales to the Soviet Union.

Mounting unrest among farm groups is presenting the Administration with a difficult, political dilemma at a time when it is trying to placate its conservative supporters by adopting a tough position on trade with the Soviet bloc.

A delegation of senior Administration officials has just returned from an apparently unsuccessful mission to Europe where it tried and failed to convince government officials to join with the United States in shutting off Western credit to the financially-pressed East.

In toughening its position on Soviet trade generally, the Administration is now the less refusing to renew the possibility or renewed, formal grain negotiations with the Russians.

President Reagan met farm leaders yesterday and reiterated his position that farm exports will not be used as a diplomatic weapon except in extreme situations. He indicated that the situation in Poland is not regarded by his Administration as serious enough to warrant the imposition of another embargo similar to the one imposed in 1980 by President Carter in response to Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

Indeed, senior White House officials admitted privately that it would be very difficult politically for Mr Reagan to halt grain sales at a time when bankruptcies among United States farmers are rising and grain exports are dwindling.

Mr Reagan may be forced, however, to take a more positive position on grain sales if he has so far articulated as both farmers and Congressmen urge him actively to pursue renewed trade with the Soviet Union.

Two influential Republican Senators, including Mr Robert Dole of Kansas and Mr Roger J. Pless of Iowa, appealed to Mr Reagan today to reschedule talks with the Soviet Union as early as next month.

Falklands landing raises clamour in Commons

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

The Government was under pressure yesterday to retain the survey ship HMS Endeavour in the South Atlantic after the illegal landing by a group of Argentine Marines at Leith Harbour, South Georgia, last week.

South Georgia is a dependency of the disputed Falkland Islands. In the Commons, Conservative and Labour members urgently appealed to the government to reconsider the withdrawal of the vessel or to consider a replacement. There was some indication that Ministers may be having second thoughts after a statement by Lord Trefgarne, Under-Secretary of State, at the Foreign Office, that the matter was still being discussed.

Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, told the Commons that the Argentine naval transport ship and most of the personnel left on Sunday. HMS Endeavour is in the area and there are Marines in the Falklands.

Mr James Callaghan, the former Prime Minister, said Mr Luce was warned that this sort of escapade was likely as soon as the withdrawal of the Endeavour became known to Argentina. It would be gross dereliction of duty by the Government to persist in this course.

At Buenos Aires, The British Ambassador, Mr Anthony Williams, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry yesterday to discuss the landing and the military junta tied to view the situation, a Government source said.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Top woman journalist sent to jail

Istanbul.—A military court sentenced Mrs Nazi Ilıcak, Turkey's leading woman columnist, to three years in jail for violating a ban on political debate, said a spokesman for her newspaper, *Tercuman*, a right-wing daily with a national circulation of more than 500,000 copies.

He said Mrs Ilıcak was found guilty of having violated Communiqué 52 issued by the National Security Council, which virtually bans all political and public debate on Turkey's present and future politics. The military edict was intended to prevent mass media references to parties dissolved by the council on the day the military took over in a coup on September 12, 1980.

The *Tercuman* spokesman said that Mrs Ilıcak, wife of Mr Kemal Ilıcak, its publisher, was convicted for her article entitled "Fascism on trial" which referred to a case trial in Ankara in which 220 officials of the ultra-nationalist Action Party took the death penalty for an alleged rightist conspiracy to overthrow the regime in Turkey.

Battle victory claim by Iraq

Iraq said it had launched a big counter-offensive in the Iranian oil province of Khuzestan and had wiped out an Iranian division. Iran, meanwhile, said that its forces had killed thousands of Iraqis and recaptured a large tract of occupied land.

The official Iraqi News Agency, in a report issued to Reuters, said the battle ground at Dezful and Shush was littered with the bodies of Iranian soldiers. Tehran radio, monitored in London, said that more than 5,000 Iraqis had been killed and 7,000 wounded in the recent Iranian offensive.

Dutch Labour hopes fading

Amsterdam.—Nationwide provincial elections in the Netherlands today will give Dutch voters their first opportunity to pronounce on the performance of the six months old Cabinet of Christian Democrats, Labour and Democrats '66 (Robert Schull writes).

Opinion polls indicate that Labour is likely to suffer heavy losses, reflecting the electorate's growing discontent with Mr Joop den Uyl, the Socialist deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Social Affairs and Employment. He agreed to an 8 per cent cut in sick pay and has also been criticised for the country's record unemployment.

Daughter flies to see Kitson

Johannesburg.—Miss Amanda Kitson, a British girl aged 19, has arrived from London to visit her father, who is serving a 20-year sentence for a political offence in Pretoria's central jail. She was accompanied by Mr Stanley Clinton Davis, the British Labour MP and his party spokesman on southern Africa, and a woman friend.

In January Miss Kitson's brother Steven, aged 25, a British subject, was detained in South Africa for five days and put on an aircraft back to London after police said he had been found making sketches of the prison where his father, David, is being held.

US nuclear sub in collision

Norfolk, Virginia.—The American nuclear attack submarine, Jacksonville, and a Turkish-registered cargo ship collided off the Virginia coast, but no one was injured and no radioactive material leaked, the U.S. Navy said. Both vessels were able to sail off under their own power, the Jacksonville to Norfolk and the cargo ship, the General Z. Dogan, to Newport. The submarine was operating on the surface at the time of the collision.

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Opp woman journalist sent to jail

Anbul. — A military sentenced Mrs Nedir Turkey's leading journalist, to three years in jail for violating a political debate, said a spokesman for her newspaper, *Tercuman*, which has a circulation of more than 100,000 copies.

Mrs Nedir was found guilty of having violated the National Security Law, which virtually bans any political life and public opinion on Turkey's past, military and future policies. The military edict was issued to prevent mass meetings and parties during the military takeover on September 12.

Battle victory claim by Iraq

Iraq said it had launched a counter-offensive in the oil province of Khuzestan, and had wiped out an Iranian division. Iranian officials, however, said that its forces had recaptured a large tract of occupied land.

Dutch Labour hopes fading

Amsterdam. — National elections in the Netherlands today will give the Dutch Labour Party a severe test. The party's hopes of winning a majority in the 150-seat House of Representatives are fading.

Daughter flies to see Kitson

London. — A British girl, aged 16, has flown to see her father, Lord Kitson, who is in the United States. The girl, who is a member of the House of Commons, is the daughter of Lord Kitson and his wife, Lady Kitson.

US nuclear sub in collision

Norfolk, Virginia. — A US nuclear submarine, the *USS Scorpion*, was involved in a collision with a fishing boat off the coast of Virginia. The submarine was damaged and the fishing boat was sunk.

Ending raises Commons

Parliamentary Correspondent. — The Commons has raised the issue of ending the Falkland Islands' status as a British Overseas Territory. The issue was raised by the Labour Party, who are in opposition.

Farmers invade Paris calling for higher prices

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, March 23

Mr François Guillaume, the leader of the 700,000-strong French National Farmers' Union, appears to have won his wager to bring together 100,000 farmers in the biggest demonstration ever held in Paris. It was held in protest against the steady decline in their living standards in the past eight years, and to bring pressure on the Government to seek out in Brussels for a substantial increase in farm prices.

M. Guillaume wanted this to be a show of the peasants' power in the land, and of his own over them — and he got it.

All throughout the night, in more than 1,500 buses, in as many cars, and by train, the farmers, including the big industrialized ones from the Beauce, the Brie and the Somme, as well as those with a few acres and a couple of cows from Brittany and Auvergne, converged on the Place de la Nation, in Paris. Some from the Tarn-et-Garonne told me they had travelled 10 hours by bus. The vast square was black with people. The four-mile-long cortege proceeded by tractors, from which chains and sharp pieces of metal had been removed to avoid temptation, and by farmers' leaders, got slowly underway. It was accompanied by steady bursts of flares and bangs of bird scarers, which conjured up warlike reminiscences.

From the early hours, groups of farmers lay in wait at office workers at railway and metro stations to distribute

ute tracts setting out their case. At broadcasting house, 50 cattle breeders came with two friskies. "Do Parisians even know what is a cow?" One of them asked.

But the cows originally scheduled to open up the march were present only at its close, at the *Forêt de Pantin*, where a meeting was held in the cattle market buildings now used for political and pop meetings.

Precautions were taken to prevent the demonstration from degenerating into a riot; 5,000 farmers' delegates effectively controlled the crowd, to prevent the infiltration of "external elements", anarchists, Trotskyists, and the like. "We have not come to smash things up," the organizers cracked. Alcohol and firecrackers were banned, but in the respect discipline broke down. The police stayed well out of way in side streets.

The whole thing took place in a good humoured atmosphere, even though the east of Paris was paralysed by the greater part of the day. "Peasant, I agree; *mujik*, never," and, "Beware, I am discouraged, becoming enraged," some slogans read, as well as the usual puns on the name of the minister, M. Edith Cresson (water cress). "We do not hold anything particularly against her," one farmer told me. "It is the English we are after. They are a damn nuisance to everyone. They would march on the embassy, he said, half in jest and take some of its staff hostage."

The victory of the Lower Saxony Christian Democrats and the severe losses of the Social Democrats (SPD), which confirmed a strong national trend, brought calls from the CDU for the Free Democrats to abandon the tattered, 12-year-old coalition with Herr Helmut Schmidt's SPD in Bonn and form a new Government with themselves.

Herr Franz Josef Strauss, leader of the CDU's Bavarian sister party, even said he did not rule out the possibility of an FDP-CDU coalition by the end of this year. But after a parliamentary party meeting in West Berlin Herr Wolfgang Mischnick, the FDP floor leader, said the party had no reason to consider a change of coalition partners.

The FDP made their decisions according to what they thought right "and not according to the expectations of Franz Josef Strauss", he added tartly.

While detailed independent verification of the Army's claims is impossible, a tour of military bases from Oshakati in Ovamboland to Mpachia in the eastern Caprivi Strip offered reasonably convincing evidence that the South Africans are having little difficulty in containing Swapo's threat, and over the past year have sharply reduced its military effectiveness.

That said, the conflict is a far from negligible drain on South Africa's resources, costing, it is thought, about 400m rands (£230m) a year and tying down to half the standing Army of 60,000-plus men at a time of growing activity by black nationalist guerrillas in South Africa itself. The defence budget was increased last year by 30 per cent.

The guerrilla war is concentrated on Ovamboland, an area of 20,540 square miles criss-crossed by river beds, dotted by salt-pans and covered mainly by scrub and stunted mopani trees. More than 60 per cent of its 475,000 Ovambo-speaking inhabitants — half the population of Namibia — live in the central part of Ovamboland and within 30 miles of the Angolan border. As many Ovambos again live on the far side of the border.

The area thus meets the classic Maoist definition of the ideal guerrilla environment, offering a sea within which the guerrilla fish ("terrorists") to the South Africans (the "fishermen") can swim.

The South Africans struck a heavy military blow at Swapo in Ovamboland last August and September, in which they claim to have killed more than 1,000 Swapo guerrillas and Angolan soldiers, seized large amounts of weapons and destroyed missile-protected armoured cars and sites at Camama and Chibemba.

Swapo suffered further losses during the three-week Operation Daisy in October, when the South Africans struck at the guerrillas' main command post south of Cassinga in the central part of southern Angola.

The South Africans estimate that Swapo has 6,000 trained troops at its disposal, compared with a figure of 7,500 most military analysts have hitherto believed. This is still surprisingly high.

However, if South Africa's claims to have killed 4,500 Swapo troops in the past two years are accepted, the Army's main problem may well be convincing the local population that they have less to fear from their supposed protectors than Swapo.

As Brigadier Rudolf Badenhorst, the commanding officer at Oshakati, put it "every family has its naughty children".

This has meant a double inhibition: the normal one of any executive before a court hearing an important case plus the "independence" of the Spanish Army with its caste-like values.

The problem has come to a head because of the persistent attempt to involve King Juan Carlos in the coup plot by many of the accused and their lawyers. This ignores the fact that Spain has a limited monarchy and the 1978 democratic constitution expressly states: "The person of the King is inviolable and is not subject to accountability."

All the King's conduct, both on the night of the coup and before, indicates he was not involved.

All the democratic parties in Parliament have condemned the campaign against the King. The press has been eloquent in this support and Señor Alberto Oliart, the Defence Minister, told a military audience in Madrid: "Any attack on the King is an attack on the armed forces."

The Government's strategy has been to stake everything on obtaining from the military firm sentences for the accused. But this is precisely the point most worrying many democrats as the trial enters its fifth week.

As the professional wife of a Madrid businessman put it



FDP resists pressure to oust Schmidt

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, March 23

West Germany's small, but politically vital, Free Democratic Party (FDP) today resisted all pressure to bring about a change of Government in Bonn after Sunday's Lower Saxony Land elections.

The victory of the Lower Saxony Christian Democrats and the severe losses of the Social Democrats (SPD), which confirmed a strong national trend, brought calls from the CDU for the Free Democrats to abandon the tattered, 12-year-old coalition with Herr Helmut Schmidt's SPD in Bonn and form a new Government with themselves.

Herr Franz Josef Strauss, leader of the CDU's Bavarian sister party, even said he did not rule out the possibility of an FDP-CDU coalition by the end of this year. But after a parliamentary party meeting in West Berlin Herr Wolfgang Mischnick, the FDP floor leader, said the party had no reason to consider a change of coalition partners.

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The problem has come to a head because of the persistent attempt to involve King Juan Carlos in the coup plot by many of the accused and their lawyers. This ignores the fact that Spain has a limited monarchy and the 1978 democratic constitution expressly states: "The person of the King is inviolable and is not subject to accountability."

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As the professional wife of a Madrid businessman put it

Namibia moves inch by inch towards independence

From Michael Hornsby Oshakati, Northern Namibia March 23

"Swapo's strength is down by 10 to 15 per cent on what it was a year ago. The number of incidents has also dropped, and I am sure we will eventually eliminate Swapo as a fighting force." Brigadier Jan Klopper, Chief of Staff Operation, told visiting correspondents at South African military headquarters in Windhoek, the Namibian capital, last week.

This confident assessment of the current state of the 17-year-old guerrilla war between South Africa and the South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo) guerrillas fighting for the independence of Namibia (South West Africa) was echoed by Army commanders at forward bases along the territory's 1,000-mile northern frontier with southern Angola, much of it an unprotected "cut-line" through dense bush.

While detailed independent verification of the Army's claims is impossible, a tour of military bases from Oshakati in Ovamboland to Mpachia in the eastern Caprivi Strip offered reasonably convincing evidence that the South Africans are having little difficulty in containing Swapo's threat, and over the past year have sharply reduced its military effectiveness.

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As the professional wife of a Madrid businessman put it

Nato planners poised to rebuff Brezhnev offer

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Defence ministers attending Nato's nuclear planning group meeting which opened yesterday are expected to rebuff Mr Brezhnev's offer of a freeze on Soviet nuclear missiles in Europe.

But Mr John Nott, Britain's Secretary for Defence, also due to urge the United States to initiate talks with the Soviet Union this summer over reducing their stockpiles of strategic weapons.

He wants, meanwhile, to use the two-day meeting as an opportunity to extract more details from Mr Casper Weinberger, his American counterpart, about the job opportunities open to British firms in the manufacture of the Trident 2 missile.

Altogether 11 defence ministers, plus officials from Portugal and Greece, came together for the six-monthly planning group meeting at Colorado Springs. The two-day session is providing them with their first opportunity to discuss the Brezhnev initiative in the intermediate-

range nuclear forces (INF) talks at Geneva.

The INF negotiations opened between the superpowers at Geneva on November 30.

The resumption of similar talks over Soviet and American foreign ministers at separate one-day meetings in Geneva two months ago. But US resentment over the Polish crisis overshadowed the rendezvous.

Now Mr Weinberger has reopened the prospect of strategic arms reduction talks (start) this summer, assuming that the Russians agree, and Mr Nott and other European ministers do not want to see US administration change its mind.

For his part, Mr Nott will tell the planning group that British preparations for the basing of 160 American cruise missiles at Greenham Common, Berks and ultimately Molesworth, Cambridge-shire—are on schedule for deployment of the first missiles by the end of next

Spanish democrats rally to the King

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, March 23

How can Spain's democrats best respond to the challenge symbolized in the sergeant-major-like phrase of Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero, on trial for his part in last year's attempted military uprising, that its purpose was to "make the nation shape up properly?"

How can the name of King Juan Carlos, the personification of threatened democracy on the night of the attempted coup, February 23, 1981, best be protected?

These are the questions the country's democratic forces are now agonizing over since the Government has entrusted the trial of 32 officers and one civilian to the Army itself.

This has meant a double inhibition: the normal one of any executive before a court hearing an important case plus the "independence" of the Spanish Army with its caste-like values.

The problem has come to a head because of the persistent attempt to involve King Juan Carlos in the coup plot by many of the accused and their lawyers. This ignores the fact that Spain has a limited monarchy and the 1978 democratic constitution expressly states: "The person of the King is inviolable and is not subject to accountability."

All the King's conduct, both on the night of the coup and before, indicates he was not involved.

All the democratic parties in Parliament have condemned the campaign against the King. The press has been eloquent in this support and Señor Alberto Oliart, the Defence Minister, told a military audience in Madrid: "Any attack on the King is an attack on the armed forces."

The Government's strategy has been to stake everything on obtaining from the military firm sentences for the accused. But this is precisely the point most worrying many democrats as the trial enters its fifth week.

As the professional wife of a Madrid businessman put it

Letter from Beirut Lebanese shake, rattle and roll

Every morning at about 6.30 *The Times's* modest apartment on the Beirut seashore shakes to the blast of explosions.

This is no mere metaphor: the floor actually moves. The floor perceptibly wobbles back and forth for a few seconds. The pictures do not fall off the wall, but a pencil will usually roll off the desk and the curtain will sway ominously away from the windows.

Readers unused to daily life in Beirut may put this unsettling phenomenon down to the shell-fire that rumbles nightly in the commercial centre of the city, a mile and a half from the apartment. More sophisticated readers may attribute the tremors to the gun battles that break out behind the Corniche. Not long ago, after all, the Lebanese resident of a neighbouring block of flats was shot clean out of his fifth-floor window in a blaze of gunfire, to fall all the way to the ground where — this being Lebanon — he was shot again for good measure.

Recent visitors to Beirut might even suggest that the case bomb which now explodes with chilling regularity along the Corniche, a mile and a half in the other direction, might have set up the blasts.

But there would all. It is the fishermen who make the apartment move. Once again, readers accustomed to paintings of Arab fishermen, gently plying their trade in the waters of the Holy Land may be confused. For there is no trawling and heaving in of nets for your average Lebanese fisherman: ever aware of the lack of supply and demand, he simply chucks a hand-grenade into the water, rides out the tremendous explosion that follows beneath the surface, and then pull on the might catch which rises — somewhat stunned, it is true — from the deep.

Most boats travel with a basket of grenades at the ready and it is even possible, from *The Times's* balcony, to see young men hurling explosives into the

water with both hands. This is not as easy as it looks. During the civil war, I sat in one such boat while a spotty-faced youth tried to throw explosives into the water. Thrown constantly off balance by the waves, he developed an alarming propensity for bouncing the grenades off the sides of the vessel. The method, it seems, is to withdraw the pin at the last moment and hurl the grenade at the fish rather than the passengers in the boat.

When the Turks controlled Beirut, they installed an underground gas pipe-line system. Wiped out that, it still worked. Today, residents use gas canisters hauled to upstairs apartments by suppliers of Croesus-like venality. These battered iron canisters lie, lethal and exposed, on balconies around the capital, and many a stray bullet has blown apart a kitchen and its occupants because they insisted on using a gas cooker. *The Times's* canister is secluded on the most sheltered balcony and do for the block of flats has received only five bullet holes.

Not so this newspaper's car, which has taken seven bullets, mostly on the front line in central Beirut. The vehicle repair shop in Fin Mellese charges just £25 to patch up the holes. None have yet appeared in *The Times's* correspondent — nor will they if the city's taxi drivers have their way.

Some months ago I arrived at Beirut airport to find a gun battle under way between Syrians, leftist militants and Lebanese police. Bullets were thrown into the road in front of the terminal. I threw myself, panting shamelessly, into the back of an old yellow taxi whose owner turned to his new passenger, dejectedly, a supposedly rich European captive in his car.

There was a flash of gold teeth and a wide smile in the violent darkness. "Welcome to Lebanon," he said. I couldn't have put it better myself.

Robert Fisk

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Television Minefield of comedy

Scenes of everyday life in the black townships of South Africa and the unexpected arrival there of the Messiah, or Murana, are the subject of a brilliant two-man entertainment by Percy Mtwa and Mbongeni Ngema called *Wozza Albert!* (Rise Up, Albert) which was the subject of last night's *Everyman* (BBC 1). David M. Thompson's programme comprised excerpts from the show, interviews with the writer-actors, street scenes which inspired their inventiveness and reactions from Blacks and Whites who have seen it in theatres and halls all over the Republic. It was nice, said one young white couple, grinning shyly, it was nice to know that the Blacks felt about their life; presumably the point had never been made so effectively before.

Wozza Albert! is a bitter comic strip, run on the minefield in which Mtwa and Ngema employ all the basic theatrical skills of mime, energy, intelligence, timing and wit to impersonate everything from young boys selling meat, to a needle and thread, where necessary, hair clippers, bulldozers and a helicopter over Table Bay. The end is high political theatre and it worked like a dream on the box.

Beside it the last of Andre Singsen's trilogy on life in contemporary Africa (*Disappearing World*, Granada) seemed to come from an unreachable idyll of historic time while the problems of Christine in *A Sudden Wrench* (Play for Today, BBC1) seemed positively luxurious. Singsen, his director Leslie Woodhead and anthropologist David Turton went to one of the very remote inhabited areas of the continent left responsible either by white settlers or through the later is on its way — the Kwana and the Mursi of Southwest Ethiopia co-exist interdependently on the banks of a fast river full of crocodiles in a world of carefully assigned territory and function. More, they are elegant, humorous and skilful; merely to watch one rub two sticks together and blow smoke into flame was a delight.

The heroine of Paula Milne's play was a white lower-middle-class English man who felt neglected and abandoned by her family at the age of 43. She attended a consciousness-raising session at her daughter's school, spoke tremblingly to Anna Raeburn, took up central heating maintenance and got a job as a housewife. Her triumph came, we were asked to believe, when the lads offered to deal her in on their game, and she had the good sense to refuse. *A Sudden Wrench* was both a comedy and a tragedy, to believe, and overlong at one hour, but it was beautifully played by the always sympathetic and much-underused Rosemary Martin.

Granada took the unusual step of asking the press to be present at the first screening because the new series has begun with what is described as the first ever prosecution of a journalist under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 1976. The television reporter John Dickinson (Dennis Lawson) is accused of failing to pass on information that would have helped the police to arrest or convict a terrorist. If you arrived, as I did, five minutes late in court you might have been convinced by the fact that the prosecuting counsel is courteous, concerned and impeccably made up while the defence, contrary to all convention, is purple-lipped and snide, but otherwise lay viewers would find everything in place: solid downbeat acting, clear direction and exposition of all points of view, with only counsel and one witness for light relief all the way to the top. Verdict: tomorrow.

Michael Ratcliffe

Sara Kestelman made her name with the RSC, in the Peter Brook 'Midsummer Night's Dream'. Next week she returns in 'Macbeth' to start a season which promises to be the strongest in years. Interview by Sheridan Morley.

A world larger than life

The Stratford season which opens on the RSC's main stage with a new *Macbeth* today week-end, it is a season largely run by young directors (Howard Davies, Adrian Noble, Ron Daniels) but its central casting (Derek Jacobi, Michael Gambon, Helen Mirren and Sara Kestelman) suggests that, despite the lure of the Barbican and the fact that most recent RSC successes have been in London, the company is now well aware of the need to repair some of the fences surrounding its first Warwickshire base.

The last Stratford *Macbeth* was six seasons ago, the celebrated Ian McKellen-Judi Dench chamber production by Trevor Nunn, this one marks a return to the wide stage and, for Sara Kestelman, a return to the role she first played five years ago opposite Keith Baxter at Birmingham. Later this season at Stratford she goes on to a double Goneril (opposite Gambon) on the main stage in Shakespeare, and opposite her current *Macbeth*, Bob Peck, at the Other Place in the Edward Bond variant) and then an as yet unannounced *Sweet Bird of Youth* which she will do at the Other Place before moving to the whole batch into the Barbican after Newcastle early next year.

This is for her a kind of homecoming. Sara Kestelman first joined the RSC in 1968, made her London debut with them a year later at the Aldwych and then made her name with Brook's *Midsummer Night's Dream* for which she played Hippolyta and Titania. Since then, until now, she has not been back.

She was born in London 37 years ago, the only daughter of the artist Morris Kestelman who designed the sets for Olivier's *Richard III* and the *Allegory of the Theatre* during historic wartime seasons at the New Theatre. "My mother was a dress designer and they'd met at art school, so I grew up among painters and designers with the deep conviction that I was destined to be a dancer. I studied for 13

years without ever getting to be very good, but it was as a dancer that I first got into the theatre."

When she was 16, in 1960, she got into the last Robert Atkins season at the Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park as "a nymph" in *The Tempest*. "In those days I had a lot of red hair and Atkins had always fancied young red-haired ladies, but at the Camden School for Girls they seemed to think it was all good experience, so they used to let me off on Wednesday afternoons to do the matinees. It was like being thrown back suddenly into the mid-1920s; Atkins never knew who I was but used to shout 'You out of the way' when he wanted something else to happen. By then he was too ill to go on playing Prospero himself, so he used to lurk in the bar reminiscing with Russell Thorndike until the interval when he'd wander into the wings and as the nymphs were all making their exit, there'd be a little scream and a lot of rustling and you'd know he'd pounced again. On the last night he made a wonderful, sad, bitter speech about how he'd never had a subsidy or any proper recognition and after it we were all told to lock our dressing-room doors but at 75 he climbed up a drainpipe and through the lavatory window to kiss us all good-bye. It was a different world."

From the modern theatre, first as a student at the Central in the generation of Jack Shepherd and Marty Cruickshank, and then straight into rep at the Liverpool Playhouse and the Library Theatre, Manchester.

"Then, in 1967, that was, in 1967, I went to the landlady and on the other five you could live quite surprisingly well. I had this fantasy about becoming a film star but in the meantime I went on doing the real work and that's how it's always been. The RSC first asked me to join them as a carrier straight from drama school, but that seemed a bit pointless so I did the reps instead and by the time I did join I was allowed to understudy Sheila Allen

as Goneril, the role I'm playing now, in the Eric Porter *Leah*; then I took over from Sue Fleetwood on an American tour of *Much Ado* and that led to the Brook *Dream*.

"With one or two exceptions, like Alan Howard, most of that company was still extremely inexperienced in Shakespeare and Peter could be very frightening; every night I went home from rehearsals wondering whether I'd ever be able to do it and right up until the first press night Peter seemed as unsure as the rest of us about precisely what sort of show we had. I remember doing two or three try-outs in front of children at the Arts Centre in Birmingham but it was only on the last two or three days of rehearsal that he suddenly became authoritarian and started giving us fixed moves. The first night was like a tightrope; we had to fall or fly, and we flew."

That *Dream* became a passport to other work, and Sara Kestelman used it to leave the RSC and branch out into television as well as her only West End venture, an eccentric Tony Richardson stage version of *Claudius*.

"We were all summoned to rehearsals in a French village that Tony seemed to have bought. You either love a man like that or you hate him, and I loved him; besides, Messalina was the most marvellous part — dancer, murderess, prostitute, and died an Empress. What more could an actress want? We drank a lot of champagne in Tony's swimming pool while John Mortimer was bashing out a script, but sadly that feeling of euphoria was not spread to the reviews and we were off in a month. Still, I'd not have missed it for anything."

Miss Kestelman's film experience has not been a lot happier; despite distinguished work for John Boorman in *Zardoz* and Ken Russell in *Lesbianism* her one bid for box-office success was as the Cheshire Cat in a screen version of *Alice* for which she spent five days stuck up in a tree trying to operate a mechanical hat before being replaced by Roy Kinnear.



Sara Kestelman rehearsing "Macbeth" at Stratford

"They kept telling me to look sexy like Eartha Kitt, and all I felt was extremely silly; I was padded up like an elephant by a Shepperton costume designer who kept calling me Joan and the whole thing was a fiasco."

From that she went to the comparative safety of the National Theatre where she spent five happy years from 1977, first of all taking over from Maria Aitken in *Bedroom Farce* and then playing *Everything from Bolt's State of Revolution* to Rosalind in *Dexter's As You Like It*.

older and older until I think they thought I'd become Coral Browne, so I decided maybe it was time to move on again. I went to the Young Vic to play *Childe Byron* with David Essex, which was fascinating, not because it entirely worked — which it did not — "but because of Essex. I've been lucky in working with some larger-than-life people of different generations from Atkins through Kestelman and Tony Richardson to Essex, and that in a way is what this business is all about, people. It's certainly a lot more interesting than marriage or children. So they tell me."

Dance

Ideas out of context

Ballet Rambert

Sadler's Wells

Richard Alston's treatment of *The Rite of Spring* was given at Sadler's Wells on Monday, completing the repertoire for Ballet Rambert's London season. The choreographer, who has been cast in a different way from the premiere a year ago. Quinny Saks now plays the chosen girl, giving an account of the part that is slightly less crazed than Sally Owen's, but no less fearful.

Alston's choreography must share the blame for the role's ineffectiveness. It starts with the interesting concept of making the sage a catalyst who, rather than choosing the sacrificial victim, simply provokes her into picking herself. But to make the most of that idea, the part probably needs to be more active, to bring out a more brooding presence or to needle the potential victims more sharply.

As it stands, Alston's *Rite* is full of good ideas, the sense of cold, for instance, or the presence of a protective older woman. But the ideas are not fully worked into a dramatic context, so that, although it is easy to admire what he has

done, one is not very likely to be moved by it. Actually, Paul Taylor's *Airs*, also given in this programme, in spite of being in a simple suite of dances with no story line, conveys more powerfully by the quality of the dances and their relation to Handel's music. Lucy Bethune this week has taken over a solo danced last week by Lucy Burge; she does it with a pleasing directness, as does the also said of Rebecca Ham, another replacement leading the ballet's central section.

Taylor's choreography puts all seven dancers in *Airs* into prominence at one time or another, but, to succeed, the performance has to reach a good sense of ensemble. The Rambert cast is not quite uniform enough yet in its standard, but there are some fine individual contributions (Hugh Craig, a young man of special promise, gives a notably controlled energy to all his entries) and it will not be long to bring the whole into focus.

The company generally is looking good under Robert North's leadership, and the programmes he has chosen offer an attractive choice of contrasting styles. You would expect a very eclectic taste, to enjoy equally all the works he has added to the repertoire, but a season that includes both *Airs* and Bruce's theatrical *Ghost Dances* among its premieres offers a much more varied range. On the other hand, I do find it alarming that no space has been found, in three weeks of performances, for any work that has been in the Rambert repertoire longer than 17 months. The company has a great many fine works available that were made for it earlier.

John Percival

Sinfonietta/Knuussen

Queen Elizabeth Hall/Radio 3

Just as the fantasy world of a child's imagination can often be more richly stimulated by stories read and heard than by the specificity of television images, so, tantalizing as it was, the first British concert performance on Monday of Oliver Knussen's fantasy opera *Where the Wild Things Are* worked its own magic.

From the programme's commentary and monochrome pictures, we could well imagine what the unfinished stage premiere must have been like in Brussels in 1980. Yet it is the meticulously heard and crafted and often beguilingly beautiful colours and textures of Knussen's score that illumine Maurice Sendak's springing libretto.

What makes Knussen's deliberate attempt to revive professional fantasy opera for children (a la *Hansel and Gretel* and *L'enfant et les sortilèges*) so successful is not only this detail but the dramatic potential of the music itself: the more keenly appreciated in concert performance. The climactic sixth scene is, frustratingly, still not ready; but how effective the magic from real to fantasy world as the boy hero Max rocks in a boat on a sea of horn, harp and tremolando strings in the first interlude, how sensitively placed the last three scenes — he returns, wind, tuned percussion and strings seeming to suspend and finally restore his physical and emotional security.

The London Sinfonietta, under Knussen himself, brought the work as near to the theatre as possible (it is to be staged by ENO at Christmas), as the Sinfonietta Voices, flushed out with such fierce

Concerts

Hilary Finch

West met in their proverbial fashion with *Raga-Mala* (Concerto No 2) for sitar and orchestra by Ravi Shankar, in which the composer was accompanied by the London Philharmonic conducted by Zubin Mehta. This was the European premiere of a work, in four movements, written during 1978-80, and it was a curious experience to hear the symphony orchestra employed in such an unusual way. The main point, though, was combining an (amplified) sitar with orchestra, something for which there are few precedents. This gave rise to many unexpected textures, and the music was full of colour and animation. It was Ravi Shankar playing that drew the ear like a magnet, however, and one came away with a renewed appreciation of what an extraordinary virtuoso he is.

Max Harrison

Festival of India

Festival Hall

Monday night's inaugural concert of the Festival of India marked the start of an eight-month presentation of the vitality of the Indian art, science, and technology in various parts of London. It was built around three outstanding Indian musicians: M. S. Subbulakshmi, Ravi Shankar and Zubin Mehta.

Miss Subbulakshmi, a singer, had the first half, which formed an anthology of Carnatic (southern Indian) devotional pieces, several items each with its distinctive raga and tala being linked together. The accompaniment was provided by a small ensemble of violin, mridangam, ghazam, kanjira and two sitars, and there were rises and falls of intensity within this group that were quite unpredictable to the Western ear.

At the same time, one soon got a sense of this music as being an intricate commentary on the vocal line. The violin playing, at once so intriguingly similar and dissimilar to European practice, is what one most easily relates to, although there was also a marvellous percussion interlude towards the end. This was full of invention and subtlety.

After the interval, East and

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After the interval, East and

Theatre

Blow on Blow

Soho Poly

Few crimes are condemned more quickly than childbeating, and few criminals defend themselves more glibly than those who beat children. *Blow on Blow*, the newest offering in the Soho Poly's season of German plays, is a startlingly candid about the whole business. The more so since all the words are taken from one life, from the story told to a Berlin court by a woman who was sentenced to several years in prison for the brutal beatings of one of her children.

That single voice has been edited by Maria Reinhard to tell a story as harsh as any of the beatings. Veronika M's sometimes rambling statement reaches back to her own childhood memories of a strict mother, of a beating from her father when he swung her by her legs and banged her head against the wall of institution followed by institution where she grew up in the arms of the German state. In about an hour of speaking, the story moves through her marriages and children's experiences, with husbands either bigamous or jailed, until she meets a man who lifts her out of drink and builds a home with her.

Despite the partial rescue of her life, the state imposes penalties on her earlier lapses and she is imprisoned while her children are taken into care. She fights to regain some particular child, taken away in infancy, but that girl is the one who takes the worst of the mother's blows, the one who finds herself bashed against the wall as Veronika M had been. After a superb production of this searing testimony is removed from the courtroom. It takes place in what amounts to an expressionistic cage, enclosing the audience and designed by Claudia Mayer as an immensely suggestive environment exposing the elements of Veronika M's life.

Chailin's fencing presses a lifetime of clothing to each wall while Kika Markham wanders restlessly through the room, telling the story and gradually preparing to return to prison. Miss Markham is more restless than she needs to be, without all the modulations that would finally release the pain of Veronika M's life. But she is still feeling her way through the demands of the text and is generally working towards a more effective end. She speaks the words of the translation by Estella Schmid and Billy Colvill with a naturalism too near to life, but the honesty of Veronika M burns through.

Ned Chaillet

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Sunday Times

ALL MY SONS
WYNDHAM'S THEATRE

Van Morrison

Dominion

There is a line in one of Van Morrison's recent devotional songs which goes: "mystical rapture... I am in ecstasy". It is not so very many years since he would take an apparently mundane line or phrase from one of his secular songs, and, by exaggerated repetition and elaboration, put himself in the kind of trance which suggested precisely that condition without needing to make such a literal statement.

His current work may be missing the majestic ambition and spiritual ambiguity of such an earlier classic as "Madame George", but then Morrison could not forever continue to teeter on the brink of his own sanity, between dreams and waking, which was the condition that invested his music of a dozen years ago with such uncommon power. If he has chosen to open his eyes and to retreat from the edge, then he makes up for the shedding of mystery by a concentration on his great ability to focus musical forces.

Long before Bruce Springsteen appeared, Morrison was searching for an

Rock

Richard Williams

idealized synthesis of rock and jazz styles, hoping to include a charming gothic-sounding arrangement of "It's a Boy in the Game", an intent version of Sonny Boy Williamson's demon-driven "Help Me", a relaxed "Tupelo Honey", and a clutch of new songs, either nostalgic ("Cleaning Windows"), or devotional ("She Gives Me Religion"). "Dweller on the Threshold", "Beautiful Vision", Of the latter, noteworthy were "Vaino Staircase", in which Morrison produced a few bars of brilliantly appropriate lead repeats. The contrast between his tubby, immobile figure and the music's lissome grace was just one among the resulting creative tensions.

Two drummers drove the band without needing to pound, a Hammond organist summoned r&b ghosts, and the two horns (the trumpet Mark Isham and the tenor saxophonist Pee Wee Ellis) and three singers were deployed as antiphonal choruses, against which Morrison could play vocal phrasing of such rhythmic acuity that sometimes (as in the infectious new "Bright Side of the Road") it seemed to lift the band by itself.

A restrained melody of "Into the Mystic", "Moon-

Rock

Richard Williams

dance" and "Wavelength" prefaced the set, which included a charming gothic-sounding arrangement of "It's a Boy in the Game", an intent version of Sonny Boy Williamson's demon-driven "Help Me", a relaxed "Tupelo Honey", and a clutch of new songs, either nostalgic ("Cleaning Windows"), or devotional ("She Gives Me Religion"). "Dweller on the Threshold", "Beautiful Vision", Of the latter, noteworthy were "Vaino Staircase", in which Morrison produced a few bars of brilliantly appropriate lead repeats. The contrast between his tubby, immobile figure and the music's lissome grace was just one among the resulting creative tensions.

Two drummers drove the band without needing to pound, a Hammond organist summoned r&b ghosts, and the two horns (the trumpet Mark Isham and the tenor saxophonist Pee Wee Ellis) and three singers were deployed as antiphonal choruses, against which Morrison could play vocal phrasing of such rhythmic acuity that sometimes (as in the infectious new "Bright Side of the Road") it seemed to lift the band by itself.

A restrained melody of "Into the Mystic", "Moon-



Morrison: lack of artifice

Richard Williams



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

MR WHITELAW AT BAY

This is the most critical week that Mr Whitelaw has faced in his time as Home Secretary — not the most critical for the country, but the week in which his personal political standing is put to the most severe test. There is much anxiety in the country over the rise in crime and much dissatisfaction within the Conservative Party over his performance in dealing with it. On Monday evening he underwent the scrutiny of the Conservative backbench Home Affairs Committee, and came through it with success. Today there is to be a debate in the Lords on the increase in crime and tomorrow in the Commons on an Opposition motion on law and order. That Labour decided to devote one of its supply days to a topic that is normally regarded as being of more political value to the Conservatives is an indication of how beleaguered Mr Whitelaw looked to be on this issue.

The public has been alarmed about the crime rate for some time. The alarm has been fanned by two recent developments. One was the publication of the statistics for serious offences in England and Wales and the other was the demand from the Police Federation for the restoration of capital punishment. This demand has stimulated the appearance on the order paper of the House of Commons of a motion that has already been signed by more than 90 Conservative backbenchers, although there is no prospect of a majority of MPs in this Parliament voting to bring back the death penalty.

There is always scope for argument about the precise significance of crime statistics, because they tend by their very nature to be unreliable indicators. That applies particularly to the less serious offences, where not

every crime that is committed is reported. The latest criminal statistics are not in themselves conclusive. Although the increase of ten per cent in serious offences in England and Wales in 1981 was high, the rate of increase was not so high as in either 1974 or 1977. Much of the change can be attributed to the increases in theft and the handling of stolen goods. The number of murders and sexual offences has even fallen.

The figures need to be kept in proportion, but they are not to be explained away. Serious crime has been rising at a disturbing rate for some time. That is evident both from the statistics and from common observation. Public alarm, particularly over crimes of violence, has out-run even that rate of increase. This is not something that exists only in the fevered imagination of politicians, journalists and broadcasters. These are social and political facts to which any government is bound to respond.

But how should the Home Secretary respond? There is no cause for panic, partly because the figures do not warrant it, but even more because this is a field in which sudden dramatic decisions are usually of less value than the steady thrust of a consistent policy. The first element of that policy should be to maintain support for the police. If criminals are not caught they cannot be sentenced. This Government has in fact a good record in improving police pay and equipment, which are vital to recruitment. Mr Whitelaw is also intending to introduce changes in the law governing police procedure, going beyond the Criminal Justice Bill now before Parliament.

The other critical element in a coherent policy on law and order is sentencing. If convicted criminals are not

given an appropriate sentence it is no deterrent to them and others and a positive discouragement to the police. But criticism here comes from two different quarters. There are those who complain that excessive sentences have led to overcrowded prisons, and others who maintain that hardened criminals are being treated too leniently. In fact the two criticisms are not contradictory, so long as one appreciates that they refer to different categories of offender.

It is necessary to reduce the number of non-violent, relatively minor criminals in prison if serious offenders are to be kept in conditions that are both humane and prevent prison becoming a university of crime. This Government has done something, though not enough, to encourage shorter sentencing — though one must always acknowledge that sentences are very properly awarded by the courts and not by any minister. It has also a reasonable record in largely preserving the prison building programme when all about it was being cut.

Mr Whitelaw should not then be short of ammunition in his own defence. The reasonable tone, which irritates many of his critics, is a necessary quality in a Home Secretary who is to reassure the disparate elements in a troubled society. The personalizing of the attacks upon him has also strengthened his position. Some Conservative backbenchers who have not previously been among his admirers now believe that it would be folly to sacrifice him on the altar of law and order. But while his continuation in office seems assured, the task that he now faces is to win the confidence of an agitated party and uneasy public for a policy that must be firm but need not be dramatic.

THE NATIVES ARE RESTLESS

In May 1981 an article appeared in *Commentary*, the influential American Jewish magazine, arguing that Israel had been unimaginative in allowing supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organization to monopolize the political leadership of the population in the occupied territories. The author, Professor Menachem Milson, head of the Institute of Asian and African Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, asserted that many Palestinians did not in fact support the PLO but lacked leadership, and that the Israeli authorities had made very little effort to encourage the emergence of new leaders.

Professor Milson was perhaps being unduly modest, for he had himself laid the foundations of a more adventurous policy in 1978, when he was adviser on Arab affairs to the military commander of the occupied territories. It was with his encouragement that Mr Mustafa Dodin, a former Jordanian minister, founded the Hebron Village Association, through which Arab villages obtained money from the Israeli authorities for development projects.

It was true, however, that until last year not very much had been done to follow up Mr Dodin's initiative and to explore after last summer's elections, when General Ariel Sharon became defence minister and so assumed responsibility for the government of the occupied territories. Mr Sharon, it seems, was impressed by the *Commentary* article. (For academics with political ambitions *Commentary* is a good place to publish: it was also with an article there that Mrs Jean Kirkpatrick caught the eye of Governor Reagan.)

Last November Professor Milson became the first head of a new "civilian"

administration in the West Bank, the declared purpose of which was to involve more Arabs in the day-to-day running of the administration and so to prepare them for the application of autonomy as envisaged in the Camp David accords. Other village leagues were formed, in emulation of the Hebron one, with strong encouragement — not to say pressure — from the Israeli administration, and in the teeth of intimidation from the PLO, now joined by Jordan.

Village politics in any country tend to be apolitical in the national sense and to concentrate on parish pump issues which put a premium on a working relationship with higher authority, whatever its political colour. That does not mean that villagers are necessarily without opinions on national issues, but they find it more appropriate (and sometimes safer) to voice such opinions when gathered together in towns and universities. Palestine in that respect is no different from any other country, and Professor Milson, for all his orientalist erudition, is no different from previous colonial governors in many parts of the world: dismissive and when necessary repressive towards urban and educated groups voicing nationalist demands, paternalist towards peaceful village elders, and on the look-out for interlocuteurs valables.

Such policies have seldom if ever been successful in the long run because the only really valid interlocutors — the ones capable of mobilising popular support for a political programme — are almost invariably those saying what the colonial governor does not want to hear. The village elders may be good at settling local disputes over marriage portions or grazing rights, but they tend to cut a sorry figure when sent

in by the colonial power to bat against nationalists on a political wicket. (Who now remembers Mr Ian Smith's Council of Chiefs?)

The present unrest on the West Bank has been directly provoked by Mr Milson's policies. He thinks — or affects to think, in an interview with the *Guardian* yesterday — that this is because "the PLO, who are afraid they are losing their hold on the population, are pushing things to a head". That proposition is, to say the least, unproven.

What is certainly true is that virtually all politically aware Palestinians on the West Bank are intensely suspicious of the new "civilian" administration because they see it as a step away from straightforward military occupation arising from a state of war and towards a permanent annexation in pursuance of Israel's claim to sovereignty — which is also how both Mr Begin and the Palestinians have tended to interpret the "autonomy" proposed as a five-year transitional solution by the Camp David accords.

The Egyptian interpretation, that autonomy would be a transitional stage towards an independent Palestinian state, finds few takers on the West Bank because people there can see that Israel would retain ultimate control and that Israel has no intention of allowing an independent state to emerge.

For the inhabitants of the West Bank it is Hobson's choice. "Civilian" or military administration, autonomy or no autonomy, they face continued Israeli rule and expanding Israeli colonization of their land. If the world wishes them to abstain from violence, it has to find a way of offering them a better choice than that.

Doubts on 'police accountability'

From the Chief Constable of Manchester

Sir, In the BBC 1 Question Time programme on March 18 a brief discussion took place on my recent proposal for the appointment of "non-political police boards" to oversee local police administration.

I was disappointed by it on two important counts. First, not a single contributor had a proper grasp of the essential point of my argument, which could be due to poor articulation on my part or misunderstanding through the press. And second, to my dismay, all the panelists, without exception, demonstrated a quite abysmal lack of detailed knowledge of the real workings of our existing police committee structure, which surely illustrates just how large is the current problem we face.

However, one rather frightening matter clearly emerged. Mr Ken Livingstone, Leader of the Greater London Council, stated quite correctly that "police accountability" for him means direct political control of all police operations.

He used as an example the "swamp" tactics in London last year and said, in effect, that under his declared policy large numbers of police officers would not be allowed to enter an area to combat street crime without the express approval of the Greater London Council. Even members of the studio audience appeared to balk at this particular comment.

It is precisely because of Ken Livingstone's declared intention, precisely because of similar statements expressed elsewhere, and precisely because I fear the worst for the future, that I recommended so forcibly the need for police to be accountable to a more independent and balanced body of people with no political axe to grind and without loss of real community involvement.

Yours faithfully,
J. ANDERTON,
Chief Constable,
P.O. Box 22 (S.West P.D.O.),
Chester House,
Boyer Street,
Manchester,
March 19.

From Mr G. V. Harries

Sir, In your news reports, and those of the BBC, the phrase "police and civilians" appears from time to time. This is convenient but misleading. Ought we not to remind ourselves that the police are citizens like everyone else and that in general they are bound by the same law as the rest of the community?

In the words of the Royal Commission on Police Powers and Procedure (1929), "the police of this country have never been recognized as having a greater power in protecting the law than the ordinary citizen has."

Yours truly,
G. V. HARRIES,
Rokeby,
Badgeworth Lane,
Badgeworth,
Cheltenham,
March 21.

Race and crime

From the Bishop of Willesden

Sir, By reminding us that Asians and blacks are far more susceptible than whites to racial attacks the AUEW (TASS) General Secretary (March 16) provided a response to Ronald Butt's article of March 18. It is no doubt hoped that the release of tugging statistics in ethnic categories will assist effective action over this problem.

I submit that a sensitive and compassionate nation has other, longer term obligations as well; for example, to realize what it must feel like to belong to the black minority, every member of which stands out clearly whenever he or she goes on to the streets.

Those whom Ronald Butt styles as race-relations pressure groups recognize an obligation to value rather than coldly tolerate the newcomers in our midst. Many are descended from those whom our forefathers caused to be carried across the Atlantic and sold, two centuries ago.

A change of attitude may take time and involve pain for us in the process. Those who recognize this obligation cannot be typecast into one mould. This correspondent's friends would have difficulty in describing him as other than quietly conservative.

Yours faithfully,
J. HEWLETT WILLESSEN,
Chairman,
Community and Race Relations Unit Board,
British Council of Churches,
173 Willesden Lane, NW6,
March 19.

Film cassette piracy

From Mr R. A. B. Cotterell

Sir, Mr Winner (March 18) has obviously not read that neglected masterpiece of English literature, Lord Denning's *Pirate King* judgment in *Rank Film Distributors and others v Video Information Centre and others*. The Copyright Act provides that a copyright owner is entitled to damages equivalent to the depreciation caused by infringement, and also, because all illegal copies are held to be the property of the copyright owner, to the total of the value of such copies if they have been sold.

As the last probably prevents a pirate making any profit, one such action should suffice to put any pirate out of business.

Yours faithfully,
R. A. B. COTTERELL,
25 Crosby Row,
The Borough, SE1.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr Prior's plan for Ulster Assembly

From Mr Julian Amery, MP for Brighton, Pavilion (Conservative)

Sir, Your leading article (March 22) on Mr Prior's proposed Assembly for Ulster overlooks a fundamental issue.

The founders of Ulster Unionism, Carson and Craig did not want devolved government. They wanted to play their part at Westminster along with representatives from the rest of the Kingdom. It was the British Government which imposed Stormont in the hope that Dublin and Belfast would eventually co-operate in a Council of Ireland.

The result was that the real political leaders of Ulster remained at Stormont while MPs who came to Westminster, though often personally distinguished, had little political influence. None of them ever sat in a British Cabinet. Ulster was thus deprived of a natural goal for political ambition and denied the wider and more tolerant horizons which could have followed from taking part in the high politics of British affairs. With Stormont as a political focus, Ulster politics inevitably became increasingly parochial and sectarian differences were correspondingly polarised.

Palestinian homeland

From the Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Sir, Reading the advertisement published in the *Times* of March 16 under the title "Peace in the Middle East" one cannot help but remember Arnold Toynbee's wise words:

Right and wrong are the same in Palestine as anywhere else. What is peculiar about the Palestine conflict is that the world has listened to the party that has committed the offence and has turned a deaf ear to the victim.

From the terms of their advertisement it is clear that the Vedanta Movement, like so many others before them, have been listening only to "the party that has committed the offence". That has led them into expressing views that are both unjust and ill-founded. They have lent themselves to a campaign which Israeli and Zionist propagandists are carrying on at the present time, and they are doing so by accepting that Jordan is the Palestinian homeland and hence that there is no case for Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza and for the establishment of a Palestinian state on Palestinian soil.

The advertisement invites the Palestinians to accept a version of history which is, to say the least, tendentious. At the time when the League of Nations issued its Mandate, the territories east and west of the Jordan River were administered separately for many centuries. Throughout the period of Ottoman rule Jordan was part of the vilayet (province) of Syria. Palestine was divided into three sanjaks (districts), one (Jerusalem) administered directly from Istanbul, and two attached to Beirut. As Norman Bentwich (the Jewish lawyer who served as Attorney-General in Palestine during the Mandate) observed in his book, *Palestine*: "The underlying fact during the war to the Arabs as to the autonomous Arab region included the territory (east of the Jordan), and it

Saving a Stubbs for the nation

From Mr Martin Butlin

Sir, As the expert adviser whose successful appeal to the Export Reviewing Committee led to the withholding of the export licence for George Stubbs's "Gimcrack with John Frate" on Newmarket Heath, I cannot let pass Julian Pritchard's letter in your issue of March 22. That I was successful in my application, and that the National Heritage Memorial Fund and the Victoria and Albert Museum are both prepared to make large contributions towards the purchase of the picture, is perhaps an answer enough. However, certain points in Mr Pritchard's letter possibly deserve more specific treatment.

Mr Pritchard suggests that the reputation of Stubbs in this country is somehow exceptional. The very fact that the price of £750,000 has been offered by a private American collector gives the lie to this suggestion. There is also a considerable interest in Stubbs on the Continent. For instance, the authorities of the Louvre have made known their interest in putting on a large-scale exhibition of the artist's work.

Mr Pritchard devotes a whole paragraph to what he sees as the ineptitude of Stubbs's composition. In fact the close juxtaposition of forms to which he takes exception is a deliberate and positive feature of Stubbs's painting. Many of Stubbs's most successful compositions play games, as it were, with juxtapositions. On very rare occasions these games fail to come off, but in this picture anyone with an eye for classical composition must surely see that Stubbs has created a masterpiece of design.

Mr Pritchard's letter reflects, however, a more general view which, alas, still seems common in some quarters, that a picture of a horse is necessarily inferior to a picture of some more elevated subject. Over the years Stubbs has gradually become acceptable as the art establishment, largely on the basis of those exceptional pictures that go beyond conventional sporting art to cover a wider range of subjects, as for instance in the series of pictures of mares and foals or the more elaborate compositions involving Gimcrack racing at Newmarket.

But it is Stubbs's very achievement in the well-worn tradition of the horse portrait that makes this particular picture so exceptional. He has taken an accepted genre and transformed it into a masterpiece and it is for this reason that nothing must stand in the way of the Fitzwilliam Museum's gallant attempt to save the picture for the nation.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN BUTLIN,
Keeper of the Historic British Collection,
Tate Gallery,
Millbank, London SW1,
March 22.

A great reformer

From Bishop Norman Sargant

Sir, May I draw your attention and the attention of your readers, who may come to London for the festival of India and deplore the fact, that there is no memorial in this city to one of India's most illustrious sons, the great reformer Ram Mohan Roy (1772-1833)?

He stayed in London from 1831 to 1833 to give evidence before a select committee of Parliament and to appear before the Privy Council on such important matters as the renewal of the East India Company's charter and the abolition of *Sati* or widow-burning. He lived for most of this time at 48 (renumbered 49) Bedford Square as the guest of the Hare family, well known to him in Calcutta and who were present at his death in Bristol on September 27, 1833.

The place of his death here is commemorated at Purdown Hospital and that of his burial at Arncliffe, West Yorkshire. Could there not also be some commemoration of his valuable labours in London, if possible at Bedford Square; too late perhaps for the festival but in time for the 150th anniversary of his death?

† NORMAN SARGANT,
Honorary archivist,
Bristol Cathedral,
College Green, Bristol.
March 18.

Paper chase

From Mr G. D. Dew

Sir, I can assure Miss Holbrook (March 16) that it doesn't make the slightest difference. Today I received an amended notice of coding dated the day after the Budget giving me the 1981-82 married allowance of £2,145!

Yours faithfully,
G. D. DEW,
8 Melcham Gardens,
Twickenham,
Middlesex.
March 16.

Winning smile

From Mr L. Murphy

Sir, Your picture today (March 19) of Dr Runcie receiving such a great smile from a patient at St Joseph's Hospice shed its own glow over an otherwise sombre morning. Both priest and patient were a moving testament to Christian love in action.

There is an example here for all of us to emulate not least those people who vilified Dr Runcie in his Liverpool church.

Yours faithfully,
LARRY MURPHY,
10 Hove Park Way,
Hove,
East Sussex.
March 19.

Mental health

From Mr Malcolm Hurwitz

Sir, The concerted attack in your letters column (March 4, 12 and 13) on clause 38 (iii) of the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill is unduly alarmist. All your correspondents paint a disturbing picture of the consequences of requiring a patient's psychiatrist to obtain a second opinion for drug treatment if the patient is capable of giving consent but is unwilling to do so.

Professor Gunn and his colleagues, like Mr John Pringle, take the extreme cases of a gravely disturbed patient or a doctor's "sickest patients" and suggest that the doctor could "lose control" or that "a patient will get no treatment should the patient's consultant psychiatrist and the medical commissioner

disagree". The weakness of the logic of this argument itself suggests that it would be an advantage to have a check on psychiatric practice.

None of your correspondents realises that a disagreement between two psychiatrists in itself casts doubts upon the suitability of the proposed treatment in a particular case. A further overstatement of their argument is to assume that such a disagreement would lead to "no treatment" and turning hospitals into prisons; but it is surely more reasonable to assume that a discussion between two doctors might well result in a different, but agreed, treatment.

Mental health review tribunals have always had the power to discharge certain patients from hospital when their consultants have been unwilling to do so. If a

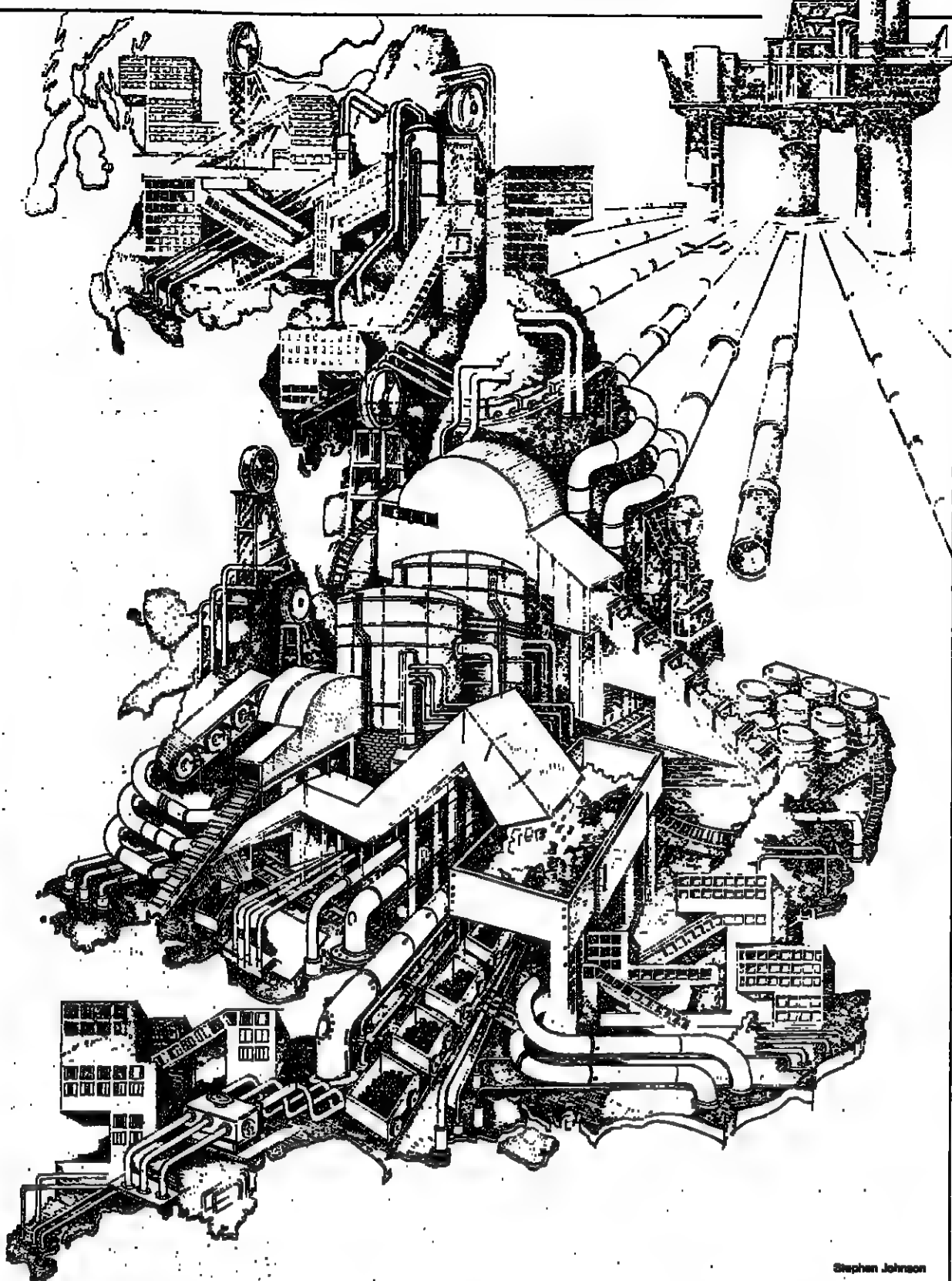
doctor's judgment in such matters can be reviewed by a tribunal only one of whose members is a psychiatrist, it is a lesser invasion of his clinical judgment for it to be confirmed or denied by a fellow professional in the case of a particular treatment.

The vast majority of cases will be straightforward and clear-cut and, if this is so, the exceptional cases cannot be used to deprive patients of the dignity of having a say in their own treatment. The time has passed when the word of any expert must be accepted unquestioningly.

Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM HURWITZ,
(Legal Member, Mental Health Review Tribunal),
91 South Road,
Southall,
Middlesex.
March 15.

World oil supplies are in disarray. Britain is cushioned to some degree because of an abundance of resources. Yet this mixture of coal, oil, gas and nuclear reserves has not cured our economic ills. We look at the policies, promise and the problems that lie ahead.

ENERGY



The long-term policy of "economic pricing" of energy still holds, however, and is arguably the only sensible course that can be adopted, but the issue is confused by the fact that one reason for the relatively high costs in Britain is the inefficiency of some of its major nationalized energy corporations. The Government's decision to back away from a confrontation with the miners over plans to close down heavily loss-making pits last year underlines that this nettle has still not been thoroughly grasped.

An important public test of Britain's attitude to its future energy supplies will come with the public inquiry into the Central Electricity Generating Board's plans to build its first pressurized water nuclear reactor at Sizewell, in Suffolk. The inquiry, which is scheduled to open in January next year, will be a crucial stage in determining whether this country is willing to opt for a major expansion of nuclear power — and if so, in what form and at what price.

The pressurized water reactor (PWR) is American-designed, and of a type similar to that involved in the accident at Three Mile Island nearly three years ago. Just as much attention, however, is expected to be trained on whether Britain actually needs nuclear power on the scale that the electricity supply industry says is required. The industry has been working on the basis that it plans to build 15 megawatts of new nuclear generating capacity over a period of 10 years.

But the forecasts of future demand for electricity made by the CEBG have erred consistently on the high side, and have had to be downgraded by the industry. The industry argues that nuclear power is still the cheapest method of generating electricity (though the statistics are a matter of dispute), and sees it as one means of increasing its efficiency and reducing its dependence on expensive British coal. But critics say that the industry already has a higher margin of spare capacity — 28 per cent — than it needs. The outcome of the debate will be critical to how Britain produces its energy at the end of the century, when North Sea oil — on present projections —

will be starting to decline. Three years ago nuclear power seemed to have strong justification on the grounds of energy need. Now, partly thanks to Opec, it is not so clear-cut. In the light of the fall in energy demand over the past three years, the Department of Energy is once again downgrading its forecasts of the future energy balance. The forecasts it made in 1979 envisaged energy demand rising from what was then 355.9 to between 445 and 510 million tonnes of coal equivalent by 2000.

Important consequences

This would be met by coal (137 million to 155 million tonnes, coal equivalent), gas (62 million to 65 million tonnes), oil (100 million tonnes), nuclear and hydro power (88 million to 95 million tonnes) and imports (35 million to 120 million tonnes). In 1980, ahead of the public inquiry into the Coal Board's controversial plans to start open-cast mining operations in the Vale of Belvoir, plans on which the Government's verdict is still awaited, the projections were downgraded showing a demand figure of around 400 million tonnes of coal equivalent by 2000. The latest computer simulations are believed to be showing that the demand in 2000 will be no more than 350 to 370 million tonnes of coal equivalent, in other words little more than the actual figure in 1979.

The projections, if confirmed, will have important consequences. On the plus side they make it virtually certain that Britain will continue to be self-sufficient in conventional energy until the next century, without need to have recourse to expensive imports. But they also cast a doubt not only over the nuclear expansion plans, but over the future of the coal industry, which may now not be required to produce more than it does at the moment. The Coal Board itself is still basing its plans on the assumption that demand for coal will rise, even though, thanks to the recession, it cannot sell all the coal that it produces.

Jonathan Davis
Energy Correspondent

Suddenly the tables are being turned on all sides in the energy debate. With oil prices falling, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in uncharacteristic and disorderly retreat and energy demand all over the world sharply down, it is no longer realistic — or fashionable — to talk of the new, permanent energy crisis.

Such grim forebodings were commonplace during the second great oil price "shock" in 1978-80, and yet, less than two years later, such has been the turnaround in the balance of power between energy producers and energy consumers that the International Energy Agency now feels compelled to warn the West against the dangers of energy complacency. By the same token, President Reagan's administration in the United States is busy rapidly dismantling the great multi-million dollar programme of synthetic fuel development that President Carter intended would free the world from its reliance on conventional energy supplies.

In the short-term the outlook on the energy front is undoubtedly much more encouraging than nearly anyone could have foreseen even 18 months ago. Major strategic decisions about the balance of both future energy demand and energy supplies have still to be taken, but the advantage now is that these decisions can be — or at least should be — taken in a more rational and unpressured climate than was possible in the turbulent months that followed the overthrow of the Shah of Iran at the end of 1978.

The crucial question now, for Britain as for the rest of the industrialized world, is the extent to which the lessons of the two 1970s oil "crises" have been learnt. The cost of the two crises, in the form of economic recession, declining living standards, and unemployment that now exceeds 30 million people in OECD countries, has been appalling. It would be compounding the folly if the lessons of the experience were now to be forgotten.

There are some encouraging signs that the world is changing its energy habits. The fall in demand over the last two years has been sharper than it would have been if the traditional re-

lationships between economic growth and energy demand (the so-called "energy coefficient") still persisted. In the UK consumption has fallen from 355,900,000 tonnes to 316 million tonnes of coal equivalent in the last two years to a drop of 11.2 per cent. This holds out the hope that there has been a significant degree of lasting energy conservation, as well as switching from high-priced oil to other forms of fuel.

Most academic and industry energy economists believe that this is, in fact, now happening on a significant scale for the first time. But they emphasize that the proof will not become clear until economic activity begins to pick up again in earnest. Energy conservation, now as much as when oil prices were quadrupling in the space of 18 months, is still the cheapest and most efficient way to secure energy supplies.

The drawback is that high energy prices are the single most effective means of stimulating energy conservation, and high energy prices — as the British Government discovered last year — are the source of enormous controversy and political opposition. Industrialists' complaints that for some key fuels such as gas and electricity they were paying more for their energy than their counterparts on the Continent, was a source of grave embarrassment to the Government for much of 1981.

Discount to large users

Key sectors of manufacturing industry, such as chemicals, steel and paper, pointed out that Britain was alone among western industrialized countries in being virtually self-sufficient in energy. Yet they, already stricken by the recession and the Government's tight monetary policies, were being made to pay for this apparent advantage at a time when they most needed help. The Government has since beaten something of a retreat on this front, telling British Gas, for example, to freeze industrial gas prices and urging the electricity industry to give discounts to large industrial users in return for interruptions of their supplies.

COAL: INDUSTRY'S SECURITY FOR THE FUTURE.

If you're planning the long term future of your company, you should plan it around a source of energy that's going to be around for some time, like coal. Britain has coal reserves which, based on present mining techniques and present levels of production, will last for at least another three hundred years. And, with the improvements in technology that will undoubtedly come during that time, the reserves will last very much longer.

Does your company have this security for the future? We are sure we don't have to remind you of the three words you can read in the newspapers almost any day of the week: Middle East crisis. We'll leave it to you to conjure up pictures of soaring oil prices, unreliable supplies and increasing light stock.

In fact, there is now no concrete argument for not installing coal fired boiler equipment, particularly if your company is planning to be around for some time. Maybe even in 300

years time. And isn't that important? **Coal: be prepared to be surprised.**

There have been some very impressive advances in boiler technology and combustion equipment, as well as methods of coal and ash handling.

The whole operation may be very different from how you imagine.

It's extremely efficient. It's now possible to operate in excess of 80% thermal efficiency with modern coal fired plants, which makes coal firing both very economic and competitive.

It can be completely automatic with the modern coal and ash handling equipment now available. This permits coal fired boiler houses to be light, airy and clean.

And it's very up-to-date. Over the years extensive research and development programmes have been carried out. The most recent development is fluidised bed combustion.

This technique provides higher heat release rates, which means boiler sizes, and therefore capital costs, may be reduced.

It also means that a wider range of coal can be burned and, with combustion taking place at a temperature below the melting point of ash, boiler availability is greatly extended.

Companies that can see beyond the next twenty years. Many far-sighted companies are using coal fired boilers already.

Take Graham and Brown, wallpaper printers, for example. Their

new boiler house (which is maintained in absolute pristine condition) has been very much the cornerstone of the company's expansion.

When planning the installation of the new boiler house other fuels were considered, but at the recommendation of their fuel supplier, Graham and Brown, continued with coal. As David Brown, Director, says "That is the business decision we shall all remember as being of great significance. Just on fuel savings alone we have calculated that in the first 3 years of operating the new boilers we saved £80,000."

This boiler house is truly modern and was purposely designed for coal firing. From fuel reception, no fuel is seen or handled and ash is transported away to a silo to await collection. With modern pneumatic handling of coal and ash this boiler house is very efficient and very clean.

Let us tell you more

The wide range of coal fired boiler plant and equipment is designed to meet every conceivable need, from power generating requirements to small units in commercial buildings.

In addition there is a nationwide network of coal distributors who are strategically situated to give advice and provide an efficient delivery service to industry.

If you would like one of our fuel engineers to visit and give you free, expert advice, contact the NCB Technical Service.

We will also give you information on the recent government grant scheme which provides up to 25% of the cost of switching from oil to coal-fired boilers. It's worth contacting us now. So that you can help your company to live later.

Send to: The National Coal Board, Technical Service Branch, Marketing Dept., Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London SW1A 7AL.

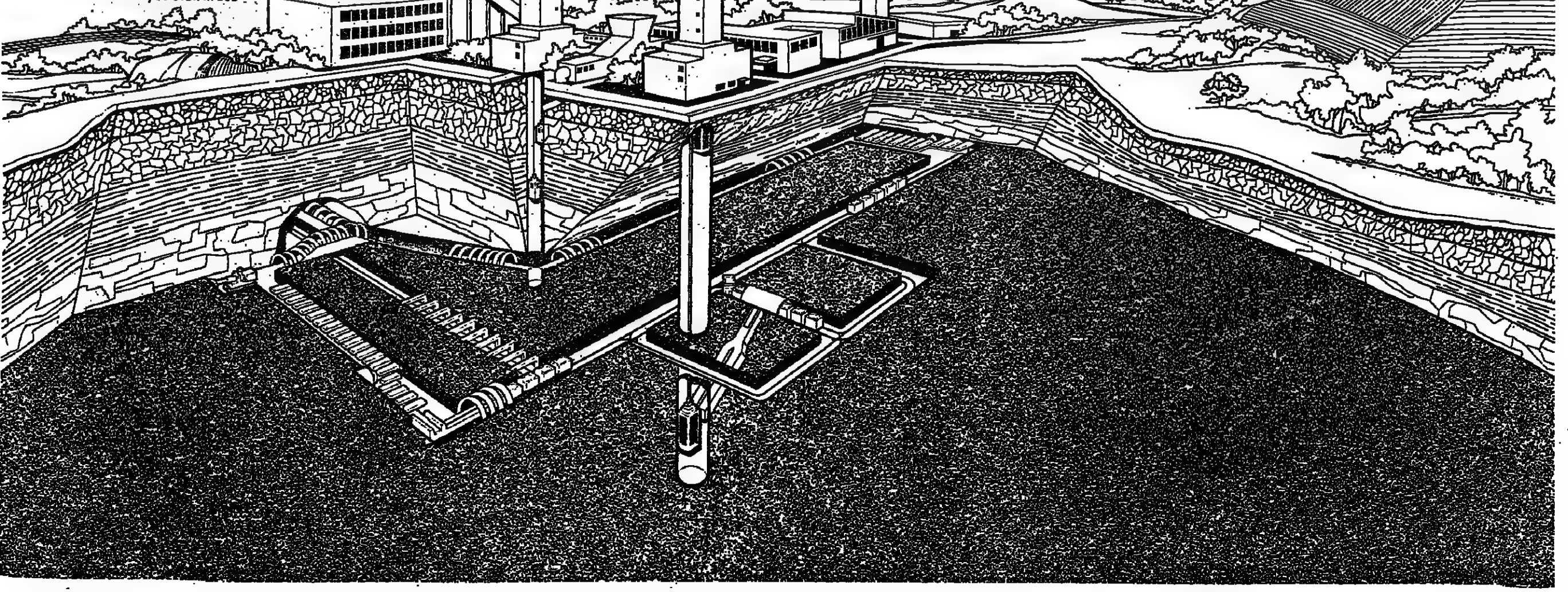
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I would like some technical leaflets on modern industrial burning equipment. I would like one of your fuel engineers to visit my company. We are considering installing new industrial boiler equipment. Please tell me more about the Government grant scheme.

125/3, 22C

NCB

COAL: BRITAIN'S ENERGY INSURANCE



Yet there is growing pressure for many of the smaller coal-fired power stations near urban and industrial areas to be converted to

What Mrs Thatcher en-

Many basic differences exist between the Three Mile Island system and the design proposed by the Central Electricity Generating Board for Britain. More safety arrangements must be built into the plant to satisfy the Government's Nuclear Installations Inspectorate. Millions of pounds have been spent on scale models (left) to explain exactly how a British PWR would operate.

Since the PWR in question is a variation of the latest design of this family of reactors under construction in the United States, part of

that the proposals are of a discretionary nature and not part of mandatory government policy.

Yet the Sizewell B hearing

There are questions about parts of the nuclear fuel cycle which clearly influence the viability of the civil nuclear industry, but for which there are yet no answers. So it is not surprising that one of the most fiercely disputed subjects in

serving one market: electricity generation. Yet the nuclear industry embraces a vast range of manufacturing and process operations; in-

That still left a big market for British-based firms, ranging through contracting, manufacturing, consultancy and providing finance and

cepting small orders and pricing bids accordingly". Mr d'Ancona said there were areas where this country did not have as extensive a capability as he would like, such as pipe-laying and in providing drilling rigs. But four rigs were being built.

Patrick O'Leary

BNFL makes the two (or all) Britain's nuclear power stations stretch together generate about 15% of the country's electricity needs.

BNFL also provides nuclear fuel cycle services worldwide.

Its uranium conversion technology has been licensed by major nuclear fuel manufacturers in the US and Europe.

You could like to know more contact information services.

BNFL Nuclear Fuels Limited, P.O. Box 1, Warrington, Cheshire, WA1 1SC.

Telephone: 01925 836141.

Both the PWR and AGR use fuel rods containing pellets made from uranium dioxide powder in which the amount of fissionable uranium-235 has been slightly enriched, to 2 per cent in the case of the AGR and 3 per cent for the PWR. About 113 tonnes of fuel are used in an AGR and 90 tonnes in a

The capital cost of a nuclear power plant is roughly one half of the costs of fuel cycle services and materials purchased during its lifetime. Fuel cycle investments are, therefore, a major consideration in switching between reactor types.

Pearce Wright
Science Editor

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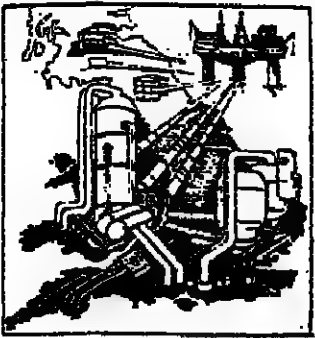
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KALE

The light seen at the top of the tower is called the Arcton light. Since 1855 it has been lit to indicate that the House of Commons are still in session.

The North Sea

Maturity brings its own problems



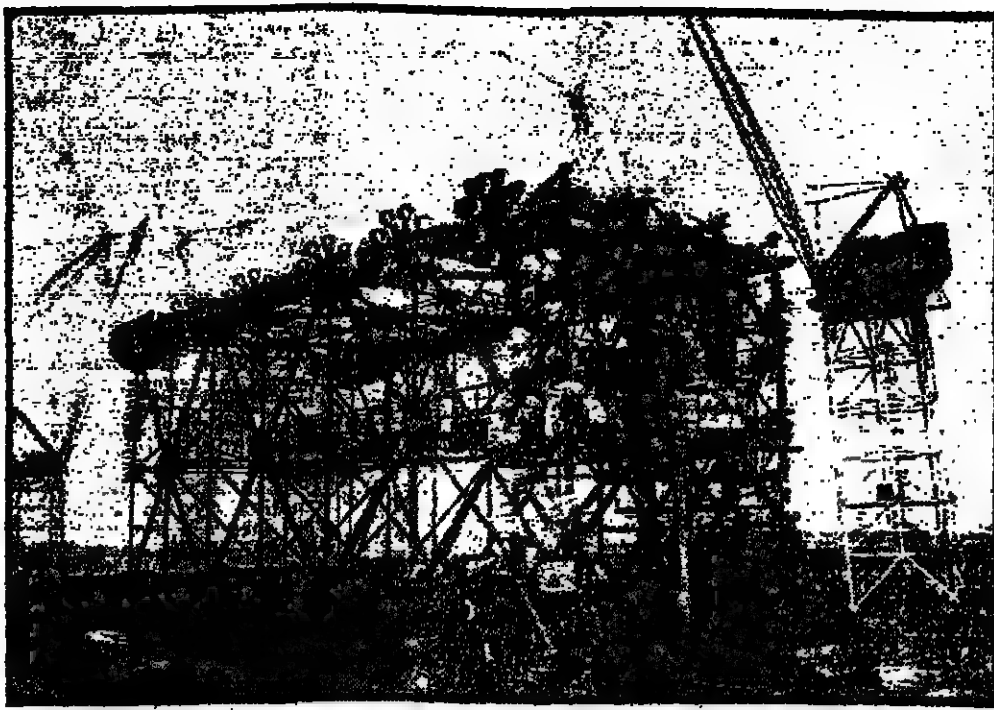
It is only six and a half years since oil started flowing from the North Sea, but already Britain has become self-sufficient in oil and is now the non-communist world's fifth largest oil producing country. Official government projections show that Britain will continue to produce more oil than it consumes some way into the 1990s, with a fair chance that this period as a net exporter of what is still the western world's key internationally traded commodity will continue into the next century.

The impact on the nation's finances, in the form of revenue from North Sea taxes, is now of major significance. When the present Government came to power in 1979, revenues from offshore oil were running at less than £600m a year. In the current financial year, ending next month, they are expected by the Treasury to total £5,400m, and by 1984/85 the yield will be £8,000m. By then North Sea oil will account for five per cent of the country's gross national product.

The scale of these figures underlines that the North Sea has become what in oil industry jargon is called "a mature province", one that has passed from being an uncharted and technologically daunting area (as it was when exploration first started in 1964) to one where sustained production from a score of proven fields emphasises how successfully the economic and technological challenges have been met.

It is all too easy, as oilmen sometimes plaintively observe, for the average Briton to forget the sheer scale of what has been achieved in the last 18 years. Only one field, the Beatrice development in the Moray Firth, is within sight of land, and that is in an area of little population. Consequently, the vast majority of people have little inkling of what is actually involved in producing the oil miles from shore in some of the deepest water and most hostile weather.

That said, maturity is not without problems of its own. It is probably fair to say that, in its entire history, the North Sea has never generated so much political controversy as it has in the last couple of years. At one level this has taken the form of a growing feeling among many politicians, economists and industrialists that the economic benefits of the North Sea are being squandered — and in some extreme cases,



Construction of massive oil rigs, such as that in this picture, is only one of a range of new engineering and technology industries in support of off-shore work established in Scotland, and other parts of Britain. They all have increasing export potential.

that we would be better off if the oil was left where it is. The tide of that campaign is now probably beginning to ebb in line with the worst of the economic recession. It is more than being made up for, however, by the future over the Government's State-owned energy corporations, the British National Oil Corporation (BNOC), and the British Gas Corporation.

When he announced the so-called Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Bill last autumn, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Energy Secretary, hailed it as the "largest measure of privatisation ever placed before Parliament". The Bill, which looks set to obtain Royal Assent by July, would open the way for the sale to the public of 51 per cent of the shares in the exploration and production assets of BNOC, leaving the corporation's oil trading activities as a 100 per cent State-owned concern.

The legislation's impact on British Gas would be even more profound. It paves the way for the enforced sale of the corporation's North Sea oil assets (which are not inconsiderable), and — even more importantly — would break the corporation's effective monopoly powers of purchases over all offshore gas discoveries.

Opposition to Mr Lawson's Bill has largely focused on the sale of the oil assets. Critics say that, particularly at a time of falling oil prices which have depressed the current market value of all oil shares, the BNOC sale will be tantamount to selling off valuable national assets at "knockdown" prices, purely for short-term Treasury gains.

Opposition MPs, backed up by some members of BNOC's own board, also claim that the sale will threaten the security of the country's oil supplies in the event of

another future oil crisis. This is denied by the Government. Security of supplies will be maintained, Mr Lawson insists, by the retention in State hands of the oil trading arm of BNOC. This already handles, under a number of statutory agreements with oil companies, nearly two-thirds of the 1.9 million barrels of oil a day produced from the North Sea.

There is a growing feeling in the City and in Whitehall, however, that the sale of shares in BNOC will have to be postponed beyond the original target date this November.

It is the gas provisions, however, that could have the greatest effect on the future of the North Sea. Gas, in fact, is rapidly coming out of its shadow as the poor relation of oil as a major source of offshore energy supplies. The first gas from the southern North Sea, off the coast of East Anglia, started flowing as long ago as 1967, and current production at 3,330 million cubic feet a day accounts for about 80 per cent of domestic supplies. There is no doubt that there are additional reserves of gas in the North Sea that could be developed very quickly.

'Peppercorn' prices condemned

Oil companies have consistently complained that British Gas has used its monopoly purchase powers to pay "peppercorn" prices for supplies.

The Government's legislation means that oil companies that find new gas fields will be free to sell direct to large industrial customers if they so wish and use the British Gas pipeline network to transport it to them. This, says Mr Lawson, should open the way for greatly increased exploration for gas, as well as for better deals for the industrial customers. The oil industry, so far at least, has been surprisingly cool in its response to something for which it had previously pressed so hard. Its argument is that, unless it is allowed to export gas to the Continent, something which has never yet happened, and which Mr Lawson says he is not yet ready to consider, British Gas still has a considerable grip on the gas supply market which will effectively render the law a dead letter.

Only time will tell whether this is the case, what is undeniable is that gas will become a far more important element in the North Sea equation throughout the 1980s. The fuel's growing importance was underlined in another way last year with an acrimonious argument, inside and outside the Government, about plans to build a 470-mile "gas gathering" pipeline down the centre of the North Sea. This am-

bitious project, costing more than £2,000m and billed as the largest civil engineering scheme of its kind, was designed to collect gas produced in association with oil from several oil fields. Although supported by Mr Lawson's predecessor as Energy Secretary, Mr David Howell, this was ultimately abandoned by the Cabinet after the refusal of oil companies to invest in the pipeline without government guarantees.

Although the short-term outlook for North Sea oil is undoubtedly bright, a number of major uncertainties and problems are looming. Production from existing fields is expected to continue to build up from 1.9 million barrels a day to a peak of between 2.2 and 2.3 million barrels a day in 1985, after which it will start to decline, at first slowly and then, in the 1990s, rather more rapidly. With the start-up of two new developments, Fulmar and North Cormorant, last month, there are now 20 fields in production, with another six scheduled to come onstream by 1984. It is what happens after that to which the oil industry is now turning its attention — and where the problems may lie.

Shortage of oil is not the difficulty. Taking existing and likely future discoveries together, Mr John Raisman, chairman of Shell UK, estimates that as many as 70 new fields could be developed over the next two decades. The problem is that they will be smaller, more expensive and in some cases more technically demanding than the ones found so far. The cost, according to Mr Raisman, could be as high as £60,000m, equivalent to roughly half the annual public spending by the government.

There are two main constraints which could prevent these investments being made. One is the price of oil. The other major constraint could be the level of North Sea taxation, a subject of heated controversy between the Treasury and the oil industry. Oil companies have stepped up their complaints that the existing four-tier oil taxation regime is too burdensome, and have warned that it could adversely affect the pace of future exploration and development.

The Budget earlier this month, in which the Chancellor refused to reduce the overall burden of oil taxes despite some structural changes, shows that the Government still does not — or cannot afford to — believe them. What is clear is that, with a top marginal rate of 89 per cent and an average take from each North Sea development of between 75 and 85 per cent (the figure is disputed), North Sea taxation is about as high as it can go.

Jonathan Davis



All the technology in the world cannot bring North Sea oil ashore without the intervention of the new breed of workers — roughnecks, toolpushers and a battalion of other men prepared to accept hardship for high rewards.

Coal

Slack today but there is a glowing outlook



This is the year of change for Britain's coal industry. The personalities who have played such an important role in its performance, and the image it presents to the outside world, are changing. Mr Joe Gormley, president of the National Union of Mine-workers, has bowed out and handed over the reins to the much more militant and strident Mr Arthur Scargill.

Who will face Mr Scargill across the negotiating table when the National Coal Board begins talks on the miners' next pay claim is, for the moment, unresolved. Sir Derek Ezra, the present chairman, is due to leave early in July. Whoever succeeds him will face a daunting task in those negotiations, the results of which have long had repercussions throughout the economy.

Whatever the difference of political views and the effect of past confrontations, the chairman of the NCB and the miners' leaders have shared a joint commitment to securing a long-term future for the coal industry. Is it a commitment which has been made similarly by both Labour and Conservative governments and is reflected in the present Government's introduction of the latest Coal Industry Bill, which will increase the NCB's borrow-

ing ceiling to £4,500m, or by order, to £5,000m.

That Bill is designed to sustain the industry's capital investment programme at an appropriate level until 1983-84. Over the past ten years governments have provided funds totalling about £3,000m for the coal industry based largely on the document, *The Plan For Coal*, which proved optimistic in its forecasts. Among other things it said that with the expected steady demand for coal, an output target of 135m tonnes by 1985 would be justifiable; that coal's competitive position would be improved as a result of a continuing rise in oil prices; and it also assumed that there would be a 4 per cent annual improvement in the industry's productivity from 1974.

But rarely indeed do plans and confident forecasts turn out to be realistic, however much investment and commitment are involved. In fact, demand for energy in Britain has fallen since 1972-73; oil prices have not risen as steeply as expected (and now are falling quite sharply); and against the background of the deepest recession since

the 1930s, while productivity has improved, the NCB is producing more coal than the market needs.

During February, for example, productivity was at its best ever level with output per manshift at 2.51 tonnes. But faced with a declining demand at home, stocks have built up dramatically. In March 1979 total undistributed stocks of coal amounted to 12.1m tonnes; the figure by the end of this month is expected to be more than double. Financing these stocks has become a major burden on the NCB, increasing its demand for working capital. Interest charges alone are likely to involve more than £360m.

Sir Derek Ezra underlined the scale of the problems in a recent speech but noted that a policy of competitive pricing had enabled the NCB to gain a larger share of the smaller total energy market while, in an effort to reduce stocks, a major effort has been made in promoting exports.

The NCB now exports to more than a score of foreign countries.

But whatever the vagaries

of the international oil market and of the international economic scene, the NCB, the NUM and, most importantly, politicians, remain convinced that coal can have a lasting and prosperous future built on reserves, which at the current rate of consumption, are equivalent to about 500 years.

This government, like its predecessor, believes that coal will continue to occupy a central position in the longer term energy scene and, with skill and good business judgment, will be able to expand the existing markets which it serves and open up new opportunities.

As Mr John Moore, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department of Energy, said during the second reading of the Coal Industry Bill: "In an energy hungry world, coal's value grows and grows... its future lies in its use as a fuel for industry, as petrochemical feedstock, as substitute natural gas and, in the longer term, as a source of liquefied petroleum".

Peter Hill
Industrial Editor



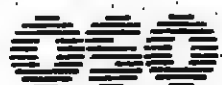
Today coal is hewn by mechanical cutters. In the future, engineers predict, it will be cut, sorted, washed and delivered to the power station in one automated operation.

We put people in touch

If you know about offshore oil and gas you will probably also know about the wide ranging capability of the UK offshore supplies industry — a capability gained in the harsh environment of the North Sea and this applicable to other areas throughout the world. The Offshore Supplies Office of the Department of Energy will put you in touch with the companies which can be of specific use to you. The business of the Offshore Supplies Office is to:

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- provide advice on joint ventures and licensing arrangements
- encourage research and development by British industry to expand its capability in offshore markets

If you would like to talk to us, please contact the Offshore Supplies Office, Alhambra House, 45 Waterloo Street, Glasgow, G2 6AS, Telephone Glasgow (041) 221 8777, Telex 779379.



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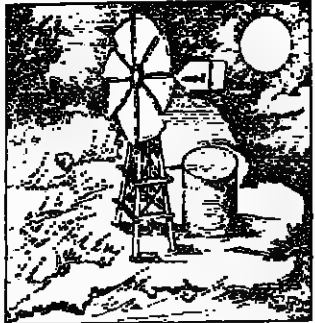
Conservation/Pearce Wright

The dangers of future dependence on imported fuels

Though Britain is energy wealthy with North Sea oil and gas, large coal reserves and considerable nuclear knowledge, we are also an energy-intensive economy. So the quicker we consume our resources of fossil fuels, the sooner our dependence on importing fuel will increase again.

Even with recession, the nations of the world are using more than twice as much energy as in 1960. The development of the North Sea may have cushioned Britain against some of the effects of post-1973 oil price rises, but it is impossible to insulate any country from the basic energy problems of the world.

The way the oil companies, electricity, gas and coal boards tout for business through television advertising is an example of fiddling while Rome is burning. Instead of encouraging the consumption of one type of fossil fuel in preference to another, the national goal should be the fostering of conservation of those diminishing resources and the development of the renewable forms of energy from wind, wave, tide, sun and geothermal heat.



In addition, the generation of heat and the creation of solid and liquid fuels from urban waste and from crops will help stretch the finite sources of energy still further. In the theory of energy economics, conservation can be regarded as a source of supply because of the impact it should have on the life span and price of the fossil fuels.

The drawbacks to this notion are obvious. While the decision to build a new power station is quite straightforward, a decision about the best form of conservation project to support is beset by imponderables.

The main hurdle is fragmentation. For example, central government uses only about 6 per cent of energy supplies. The remaining 94 per cent is consumed by about 20 million households and a host of industrial, commercial, local authority and other public sector users of energy.

It is not easy to arrange these customers into appropriate groups to alleviate energy savings by better insulation, modern electronic controls, new heating and lighting equipment, and better boilers.

Towards less use of resources

The rise in oil prices after 1973 and the knock-on effects it had in other costs demonstrated clearly that Britain was a nation of energy spendthrifts. Having discovered the fact, the job of converting the population into an attitude of energy-miserliness was beset by technical difficulties.

The Government's conservation campaign, based on the slogans Save It and

Switch Off, was positive propaganda. But the process of renovating millions of houses and modifying complicated industrial practices for the sole purpose of cutting down the use of fuel had to be a gradual operation.

One of the most interesting studies of adopting a more rational approach to the use of energy at home, published by the War Committee in A Warmer House at Lower Cost, shows that householders must make a moderate technical assessment to get the best return from conservation measures. Yet the degree of technical appreciation is certainly no more than that regarded as the normal level exercised in the

choice of car by most people. In the local authority housing sector many programmes of conservation have gone well beyond the basic provision of insulation. The South London Consortium, and other local authority groups, have changed the pattern of fuel use by many of their tenants by innovation. Modifications range from solar-assisted heating of a terrace of Victorian houses to the complete conversion of poorly designed flats in elderly blocks of property. New houses, particularly schemes at Salford and Milton Keynes, show the savings to be made with purpose-designed low energy buildings.

Solar energy panels being fitted to an experimental house at Milton Keynes

Another major advance in the local authority area is in turning household waste either into fuel, compost or a source of raw materials for recycling. Some of the large cities and towns such as Southampton, Newcastle, Nottingham, Sheffield and Doncaster have made immense progress in this work. In a more rural area, a method of disposal which turns 99.5 per cent of household waste to good use has been devised between Wiltshire County Council and Blue Circle Industries. At its works at Westbury, about 60,000 to 80,000 tonnes a year of waste are processed by Blue Circle.

Most of the rubbish is burned, and every 4.5 tonnes of waste replaces one tonne of coal in firing the cement-making furnaces.

A similar idea has been adopted by companies, like Thorn-EMI, which have converted industrial boilers from oil-fired to solid fuel. Now, as well as coal, the products from the firm's own waste handling system is burnt. This makes a double saving on the ever-rising energy bill, because as well as direct fuel saving it means that they no longer have to pay to have waste removed.

One of Thorn-EMI's factories is left with about 3,000 tonnes of waste a year, which in the past, has cost £75,000 to remove.

With this experience, and with a subsidiary, Parkinson Cowan, the group has formed Thorn-EMI Developments to concentrate on research and development of energy sources.

Another exciting development has been the production of a synthetic form of crude oil at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology. An experimental plant which transforms refuse into oil has been designed by Dr Noel McAuliffe and Mr Roger Benn in the chemistry department. Various methods have been well-established by fermentation or pyrolysis.

Those processes are difficult to operate as viable commercial schemes because the fuel tends to have a low calorific value, or because there are by-products which are awkward to handle or the liquid fuel is corrosive. The McAuliffe-Benn method produces a cellulose material, mainly vegetable matter and paper, with hydrogen. The key to the efficiency of the process, carried out in a heated pressure vessel, is a catalyst and processing liquid used to provide a method comparable with a continuous petrochemical plant. Both UMIST and the Salford University Industrial Centre, through which funds from Greater Manchester are channelled, expect no difficulty in a scaled-up version.

Cheaper than oil

It is now probable that electricity generated from sea waves could be cheaper than that obtained by oil. That estimate was offered more than a year ago by Mr Stephen Salter, of Edinburgh University, at a meeting discussing alternative sources of energy, at the Royal Society of Arts.

Some rapid advances in research in the following months justified that optimism. However, a more cautious view prevails in the Department of Energy, which has been the main source of support for wave projects since 1975.

Efforts to exploit the immense amount of energy contained in waves were prompted by an invitation at Edinburgh referred to as the Salter Duck. Other schemes followed quickly and at least six of them are regarded as designs worth pursuing by scientists and engineers in university and industrial laboratories.

Enthusiasts for methods of tapping renewable sources of energy suffer, however, from a handicap familiar to most genuine pioneers. Their arguments tend to take second place in negotiations about the allocation of money for research and development. Established ideas — in this case nuclear, oil and coal — overshadow the innovations that involve a fundamental change in direction in technical, industrial and social terms.

The most serious problem confronting the wave power innovators is probably not the limits imposed by science and engineering, but the psychology and attitudes of those who are wedded to the orthodox approach to fossil fuels. Yet there is no question about the vast amounts of power that are lying offshore waiting to be tapped.

In principle, a 1,000 km

stretch of wave-driven generators in the north-west Atlantic could meet half the Bristol electricity demand. In practice, the power plants producing energy from this source could be a mixture of small to large constructions meeting particular needs, based on national or more local requirements for power.

The Department of Energy chose a figure of 5p a unit for generating electricity as the target that the research groups must meet to be considered for the review of wave energy that has just taken place. Rather to the surprise of the group of advisers who have been evaluating wavepower for the Government, the special Energy Technology Support Unit at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, that cost has been met by several of the possible devices.

Moreover, at least two of them are ready to be converted to a prototype to go to sea. One is an academic-industrial-based invention known as the Sea Clam, already supported by private money from Sea Energy Association which is a consortium led by Ready Mixed Concrete and Cawoods Groups backing an invention of Lanchester Polytechnic, at Coventry. Plans are ready for a two-thirds scale model to be built in the Howard Doris dry dock at Loch Kishorn, and out to sea off Milford Haven. It would cost £10m and generate 2 mw electricity.

The other device known as the Oscillating Water Column has been developed by the National Engineering Laboratory. It is designed to have a life of 60 years standing on the seabed. A 4.5 mw version could be built in the Clyde shipyards for use off the Hebrides for £20m.

The best known of the contenders, and the most technologically adventurous, is the Salter Duck. Its inventor believes that the merits of the device would be confirmed one way or another with a £500,000 a year programme for five years.

The missing tonnes

For every three tonnes of coal, oil or nuclear fuel used to generate electricity, only one tonne is delivered as useful energy to the consumer. The other two tonnes are discarded as waste heat; about 55 per cent of the original energy is lost in the cooling water and 10 per cent goes up the chimney.

The Central Electricity Generating Board has been frequently reminded that it is possible to use much of this lost energy, by operating power stations to produce both electricity and heat supplies. Instead of discarding two-thirds of the energy, the hot water is distributed for space heating in homes and offices.

There is a technical catch of course, it means that the power stations have to be operated in a slightly different way. To provide a sustainable supply of heat, there would be a small reduction in the amount of electricity generated with a corresponding increase in the temperature of the water distributed. It is already done in Germany, Sweden and Denmark. The potential saving of fuel in Britain would be equivalent to 30 million tonnes of coal a year.

That estimate was made by a group under the chairmanship of Dr Walter Marshall, set up in 1974 by the Government, to examine the prospect for combined heat and power in the UK. They concluded that if the average fuel prices doubled over the 20 years from 1979, and they have almost done that already, CHP could become the cheapest way to heat houses.

However, the capital cost of providing the network of pipes would be high. The Marshall report recommended a demonstration scheme in at least one major town. Subsequent action has been slow. But the Department of Energy recently appointed the consulting engineers W. S. Atkins to make a comparison between the nine locations in the choice of the area for the demonstration project. The places are Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leicester, Liverpool, London (East), Manchester, Sheffield and Newcastle.

The CEGB has a beguiling reply to those who criticise it for not offering combined heat and power. Mr Glen England, the board's chairman, told the District Heating Association earlier this year that those who believe they have a use for reject heat should "come and get it". The board is prepared to make it free at a power station boundary. But there would be no guarantee of continuity of supply.

Energy conservation is a profitable business

Energy conservation makes sound financial sense — because obviously the less energy you waste the more money you save. As fuel costs will undoubtedly continue to rise this will continue to make sense.

Britain has a lot of natural gas in the North Sea and elsewhere around our coasts but gas, like any form of energy, or indeed any valuable commodity, needs to be used wisely.

Most gas users could reduce consumption by 10% with very little effort, and no discomfort — by the use of simple, no-cost good-housekeeping measures. And the total saving would be more than £250 million in one year.

Here are some ways in which British Gas can help you to save fuel:

Technical Consultancy Service

Each gas region has a Technical Consultancy Service to help industrial and commercial customers achieve greater efficiency in the use of gas. These units offer expertise on the design of new plant, carry out item-by-item surveys to ensure that existing plant is working at peak efficiency, and give sound practical advice on how to save fuel. All these Technical Consultancy Service units, have the back up of...

The Midlands Research Station

... at which British Gas furthers research and development into increased efficiency in gas use by industrial and large commercial organisations.

Watson House

... which continues British Gas research and development for domestic and small commercial applications is continually working with manufacturers to develop new and more efficient appliances.

The British Gas School of Fuel Management

This unique facility has helped train thousands of managers from industry, commerce and local authorities to save fuel.

Gas Energy Management Awards

These awards are presented to those partnerships of industrial or commercial organisation and gas region Technical Consultancy Service which have made outstanding contributions to the efficient use of gas.

Energy Advice Centre

A British Gas Energy Advice Centre is now open in Birmingham; it has proved an instant success and is helping many industrial and commercial concerns, public authorities and students, as well as the general public.

Energy Conservation Makes Sense

The benefits of the gas industry's wealth of experience in the more efficient use of fuel are at your disposal. Make it your business to see how we can help you — fill in the coupon below.

To: British Gas Technical Consultancy Service, 326 High Holborn, London WC1V 7PT.

- ☐ Please let me have details about the Service.
☐ Please inform me about courses at the School of Fuel Management.

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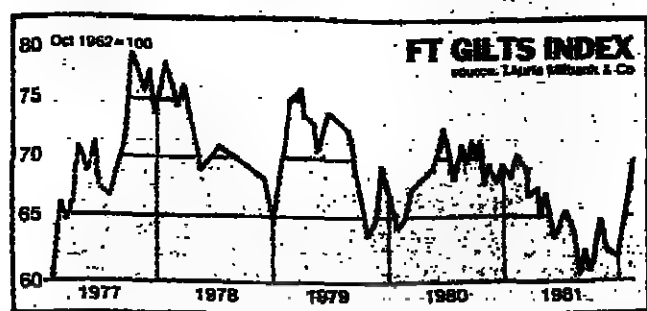
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BRITISH GAS



BUSINESS NEWS

Boost for securities



A further rise in gilt-edged stock yesterday boosted the FT Government Securities Index by 0.49 to 69.55, only 1.06 short of the 1981 high. Gilts have been encouraged by the Chancellor's Budget decision to raise this year's monetary target, by recent good news on inflation, and by a possible future scarcity of conventional stocks, as the Government makes more use of index-linked gilts. But the future course of United States interest rates, which could put pressure on sterling, remains a worry.

Business Editor, page 15

US inflation rate slows

The sharp recession and falling petrol prices slowed the rise in United States inflation to an annual rate of 3 per cent in February, the smallest gain since July 1980. Some economists even predicted that the recession, a worldwide oil surplus and abundant food supplies might produce small declines in the consumer price index in the coming months. The level for February rose a seasonally adjusted 0.2 per cent, against 0.3 per cent in January.

Steel cuts to cost 400 jobs

Over 20 per cent of British high alloy steel casting capacity is to be phased out under a voluntary scheme which will involve five foundries closing with the loss of 400 jobs. The 11 foundries which remain will pay a levy, spread over five years, towards the closure costs. The axe will fall heaviest at the Low and Bonar foundry at Slough, which has made heavy losses and where 200 jobs will go.

Burton tops

profits forecast

Burton Group, the Top Man, Top Shop and Dorothy Perkins clothing chain, has topped its profit forecast with a 25.7m rise to £24.2m in the half year, sending the shares up 1 1/2 to 170p. This compares with £16.4m made in its last full year to August and puts Burton on course to make about £20m this year. For the first time in two years, shareholders are expected to a higher half-year dividend - up to 3.57p gross against 2.86p.

Poles repay

West German banks have received almost all the 1981 interest payments due from Poland. Banking sources are confident that the March 25 deadline for completion of payments to all 500 western creditor banks will now be met. This is a precondition for rescheduling £2,400m (£1,339m) of 1981 debt.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and Standard Chartered, which have been losing customers because until this week it was demanding \$36.50 a barrel for its crude oil, while Britain was offering similar quality at \$31 a barrel. It agreed at the Opec meeting to trim its price to \$35.42 a barrel.

Nigeria bans imports as oil revenue falls

By Melvyn Westlake

Nigeria has suspended almost all its imports because of falling revenue caused by the world oil glut, according to a Reuters report last night.

The decision is likely to hit Britain hard, fifth of Nigeria's non-oil imports, worth £1,200m, came from Britain in 1980, making Britain the biggest exporter to Nigeria. The figure is thought to have risen last year.

The suspension has been effected, according to the report, by the Nigerian Central Bank telling banks there that, from yesterday, they could issue no more letters of credit, the means through which most imports enter the country.

The step was taken because oil is Nigeria's main source of foreign earnings. It has been cutting production to try to prevent a price falling even further. Production fell to 1.5 million barrels a day last month from more than 2.3 million barrels during 1979.

Under a production-sharing agreement reached last week with other Opec oil-exporting nations, it has agreed to a further cut to 1.3 million barrels.

At the same time, Nigeria has been losing customers because until this week it was demanding \$36.50 a barrel for its crude oil, while Britain was offering similar quality at \$31 a barrel. It agreed at the Opec meeting to trim its price to \$35.42 a barrel.

It was not immediately clear in the Reuters report how long the curb will last. But it does appear that the Nigerian Government has decided to cut

Two more directors resign from ACC

By Drew Johnston

Two more directors have resigned from the board of Associated Communications Corporation. They are Sir Leo Platts and Sir Max Aitken. Their decision comes only a day after the resignation of Lord Matthews.

Mr Robert Holmes a Court, whose TVW Enterprises is bidding for control of Associated Communications Corporation, is now asking City institutions to nominate at least two new directors of stature and independence.

Sir Leo, a former Permanent Secretary and £5,000 a year non-executive director of ACC, said: "I am no longer prepared to have my name associated with the company."

With Lord Matthews, chairman of Fleet Holdings, he led an unsuccessful attempt on Monday to replace Mr Holmes a Court as chairman while the takeover battle for ACC continued.

Two other non-executive directors, Mr Ellis Birk and Mr Norman Collins, who supported the move to oust Mr Holmes a Court, remain on the board.

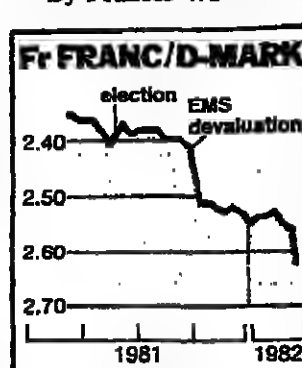
Sir Leo said he had been contemplating resignation for a long time. The second director who resigned yesterday, Sir Max Aitken, is ill and was not party to the boardroom struggle.

Mr Gerald Ronson, whose Heron Corporation is contesting Mr Holmes a Court's bid for ACC said yesterday he was "not surprised" by the resignations. He said Ronson was holding his fire until it saw how the present Holmes a Court bids develop.

Minister rules out devaluation

Franc sinks to EMS floor

By Frances Williams



Pressure on the French franc showed no sign of easing yesterday as the currency sank to its permitted floor against the Deutsche mark within the European Monetary System for the first time since its devaluation last autumn. But the French Finance Minister, Jacques Delors, said in Paris that the franc would not be devalued and that all speculation was bound to fail.

The franc was fixed in Paris at its floor parity of 2.6305 per DM, from 2.6146 on Monday, a fall of more than 2 per cent since the first round departmental elections just over a week ago which sparked off renewed speculation on a further franc devaluation.

The franc traded at its floor for the second day running against the strongest EMS currency, the Dutch guilder, while the dollar climbed to a record Fr6.274 against Fr6.245 on Monday, a rise of 3 per cent since the beginning of last week.

Dealers reported heavy intervention by the French and Dutch banks to keep the franc from bursting through its EMS ceiling.

The Bank of France also intervened on a substantial scale. It also raised its seven-day Treasury discount rate from 18 to 20 per cent in an effort to stem the franc's decline.

Euro-Franc rates for short periods soared, with one-week money up to 50 per cent and three-month money up to 27 per cent from 2 1/2 per cent on Monday.

The Belgian franc, considered a candidate for devaluation along with the French currency, also weakened yesterday, trading close to its permitted floor against the guilder.

Elsewhere, the dollar faltered late in the day prompted by a fall in the key Fed Funds rate to below 14 per cent and a consequent drop in dollar rates.

The pound strengthened against European currencies early on, its trade-weighted index rising to its best for a month at 91.5, but eased later to 91.2, down 0.1 on the day.

Date set for Japan trade complaint

From Alan McGregor

Geneva, March 23

The first step by the European Community in applying its General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) procedures in its complaint against the inadequacy of Japan's imports is expected at the GATT Council meeting on March 31.

Japan is expected to reply by asserting that it is fulfilling its obligations under GATT. The initial phase of the talks is largely a formality and should lead quickly to the setting up of a GATT panel to examine the complaints and make recommendations.

This will be by far the largest trade dispute passed to GATT which last year handled 13 cases. Most of them concerned specific items such as the United States complaint about EEC poultry imports.

Both parties are likely to make extensive use of GATT's computerized analyses of world trade flows.

Mr Kichii Niizawa, Japan's chief cabinet secretary, said his country will stress its case to GATT emphatically.

The government spokesman said Japan has a strong case as the European Community's trade deficit with Japan was \$14,000m (£7,200m) last year.

West Germany is ready to curb imports of certain Japanese goods temporarily, if this is called for under an overall EEC import policy on Japanese products, a West German source said yesterday in Bonn.

The source gave a four-point analysis of the West German position:

(1) The EEC is united on its demand to Japan to open up its market further to foreign goods.

(2) Divergences arise among the 10 EEC countries on past or future measures to cope with the inflow of Japanese goods.

(3) West Germany, the Netherlands and Denmark are the most liberal of the EEC nations on the entry of Japanese products, and for its part West Germany will continue this policy as far as is possible.

(4) However, it is important to avoid increasingly restrictive cumulative national policies. West Germany fears that France, Italy and Britain will be tempted simply to shut out "sensitive" items from their market.

Mr Drew Novak, a Japan market consultant in Detroit, said refusal by Japan to ease restrictions on United States manufacturers' access to Japanese markets could spark a trade war.

Another 10p wanted on pump prices

By Jonathan Davis

Energy Correspondent

The big oil companies were quick yesterday to follow Shell's lead and attempt to push up petrol prices by 5p a gallon, bringing the average urban pump price to 160p a gallon for four-star.

BP, the third biggest petrol retailer with about 15 per cent of the market, said it would be going up at its BP and National stations from 155p to 160p a gallon.

Texaco, the fourth biggest retailer with about 9 per cent of the market, said it would also be raising its prices. Esso, the market leader with 25 per cent, said it expected to follow suit, although no formal announcement was likely.

All four companies will be raising their prices by withdrawing part of the discount to regulars, and say that ideally they would like to see another 10p a gallon go on at the pumps, bringing the average price to 170p a gallon—where it was four months ago.

The increase will not be spread evenly across the country. They will be concentrated on urban areas, where some of the fiercest price-cutting wars have been raging.

Nigeria is already reported to have been offered cheap loans totalling £1,000m (£555m) by its fellow Opec members in an effort to persuade it not to cut its oil prices.

'Leak' speculation over Pearson bid talks

By Kevin Page

S. Pearson and Son, which owns merchant bank Lazard, Royal Doulton and Madame Tussaud's, is holding bid talks with Pearson Longman in which it has 63.6 per cent.

The companies were hurried into an early announcement because of a leak of 24p in the Pearson Longman share price on Monday. There was speculation concerning a Stock Exchange "leak" of a possible bid.

At last night's price of 29 1/2p, Pearson Longman is valued at £120m. In July 1978, S. Pearson launched a 25p per share bid for Pearson Longman, which owns the Financial Times, the Westminster Press group of provincial newspapers, Ladybird and Penguin Books. The terms of one S. Pearson share, plus 30p cash, were ultimately rejected because of opposition from institutional shareholders.

Then, the offer was undertaken by a scheme of arrangement regarding the approval of 75 per cent of the shareholders. But when the terms have been agreed this time,

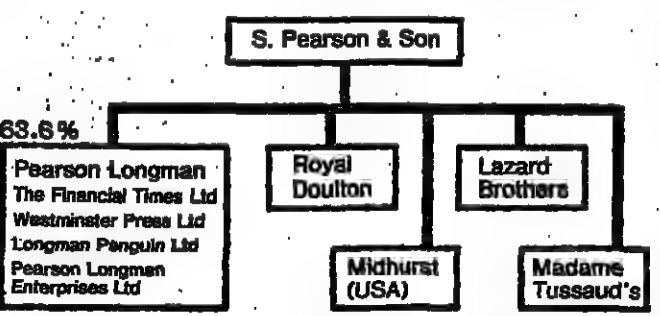
there is likely to be a straight offer from S. Pearson for the minority.

Mr Michael Hare, chief executive of S. Pearson, said yesterday there were no positive advantages in having two publicly quoted United Kingdom groups. Although the present company consolidated PL debt, it could not group both companies for tax purposes.

Apart from tax advantages, S. Pearson believes buying out the minority would eliminate any potential conflicts of interest, while centralisation would benefit financial planning.

On the recent rise in the Pearson Longman share price, Mr Hare said: "It looks as though there was intelligent speculation or a leak." He thought 750,000 shares had changed hands but S. Pearson was not the buyer.

After the announcement, Pearson Longman shares climbed a further 19p to a 1981-82 peak of 29 1/2p. S. Pearson rose 4p to 25 1/2p.



Institute of Directors chief attacks 'misrepresentation'

Union leaders 'to blame for unemployment'

By Bill Johnston

Trade union leaders were blamed yesterday as being the prime source of unemployment by Mr Walter Goldsmith, director general of the Institute of Directors, addressing the annual convention of the institute in the Albert Hall, London, referred to by the trade union leaders as "the biggest obstacle to new employment".

The guilty people of the 1970s were the trade union leaders who left Britain with the social, economic and political misery of unacceptable levels of unemployment, he claimed.

"More than any other they are the leaders of the trades unions, which have exploited with selfish disregard for the interests of their fellow citizens and their own members," he said.

Economic failure had been most dramatic where union power had been at its greatest. He gave the mining, printing, and steel industries with the railways and the docks as examples.

"Let me make it clear I am not attacking British workers, he they trade union members or not. I repeat that I am attacking without apology the trade union leadership which disgracefully misrepresents its members," he said.

In the six years to 1979, labour productivity increased 10 times as fast in France, Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands as in the United Kingdom, Mr Goldsmith claimed.

This period he described as the high-water mark of union power, in which Britain's manufacturing output grew at only one quarter of the average annual rate which was



Mr Akio Morita: pull together for common purpose

Mr Akio Morita, chairman and co-founder of Sony, stressed good management was one of the most important factors in his company's success.

Management and unions in Japan were able to pull together for a common purpose. "We try to avoid any discrimination between management and employee because employee will become management," he said.

If company lost its competitiveness, Mr Morita said, it went bankrupt, both management and union lost their jobs.

The institute was also addressed by Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, and Sir Richard O'Brien, chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, and Mr Kenneth Baker, Technology Minister.

Mr James L. Hayes, president and chief executive of the American Management Associations, and Sir David McNee, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, also addressed the convention.

Sir Richard O'Brien, the retiring chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, who will be replaced in April by Mr David Young, called for more investment in training personnel so that the country would be able to take advantage of an economic upturn.

Investment in the men and women who work for you now and may work for you in the future is inadequate in this country," he said.

If Britain did not make the investment, economic recovery would be slower. Economic survival, Sir Richard claimed, depended on a well-trained, productive, competent and adaptable workforce.

MARKET SUMMARY

Shares leap back to life

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 564.3 up 4.2
FT Gilt 58.55 up 0.49
FT All share 325.75 up 3.06
Baltic 24,020

Overnight firmness on Wall Street, hopes of lower interest rates and a crop of healthy results brought life back to the stock market, with the FT index closing up 4.2 at 564.3.

Impetal Group put on 3 1/2 to 93 1/2p as Mr Geoffrey Kant, the newly-installed chairman, gave a cautiously optimistic picture of prospects to analysts. In the tobacco division, where rationalization has recently cut out 1,700 jobs, he said the group was going for margins as well as volume. The brewing division is expected to do a lot better, but the impact of the sterling exchange rate on the Howard Johnson division could depress any improvement there.

The chairman said forecasts of £150m pre-tax in the present year were over-optimistic, and most analysts are now looking for around £130m after last year's £108m.

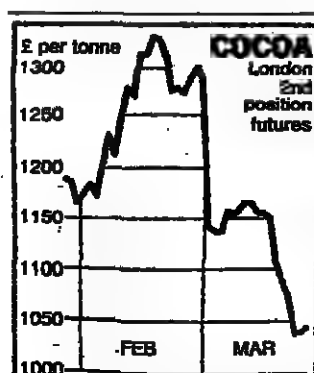
Confirmation that S. Pearson was in talks with its 64 per cent owned subsidiary Pearson Longman provided a further boost to the shares, with S. Pearson 4p better at 25 1/2p and Pearson Longman putting on 19p to 29 1/2p.

There were over-optimistic, and most analysts are now looking for around £130m after last year's £108m.

Equity turnover on March 22 was £101.538m. (16,624 bargains).

Garfield Davis

COMMODITIES



London cocoa prices continued their modest rally. March material gained £1 to £1,039 a tonne, while the May contract put on £3 to £1,044. There was some buying from the Continent. But the market is still overcast by the prospect of a supply surplus.

CURRENCIES

Gold extended Monday's rebound from last week's losses on short covering, helped by easier United States interest rates. Dealers reported that producers were taking advantage of the rally to make sales.

LONDON CLOSE
STERLING
£1,802.5 up 20 points
Index 91.2 down 0.1
DM 4.310
Yen 11.2900
Yen 441.50
DOLLAR
Index 114.9 down 0.1
DM 2.3645 down 35 pts
GOLD
\$329.50 up 38

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index
7,087.80 up 32.42
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index
1,221.18 down 2.01

TODAY

Phillips and Drew International Investment conference. British and South Asian Trade Association conference on Anglo-Indian business prospects. Education, Science and Arts Committee on biotechnology. New vehicle registration new orders (January). Board meetings—interims: Amstrad Equipment, Blue Bird Confectionery, Maynards, Sirdar, James Walker, Finsler, Bestobell, BICC, Church and Co, Richard Clay, Clifford's Dalries, DRG, Eagle Star, Hepworth Ceramic, A. Jones, Jones and Shipman, Laing Properties, Percy Lane, London and Manchester Assurance, J. N. Nichols (Vimto), Prudential, Rockware, Rotork, Slough Estates, Vickers.

MONEY MARKETS

Overnight money was tight but period rates tended easier in late trading. The Bank bought £374m of bills at unchanged rates, having raised its shortage forecast from £350m to £450m.

Domestic rates
Base rates 13 1/2
3 month interbank 13 1/8-13 1/2
Euro-currency rates
3 month dollar 14 1/2-14 3/4
3 month DM 9 1/2-9 3/4
3 month Ft 28-28 1/2

The Royal Bank of Scotland
Mortgage Rate

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc announces that with effect from close of business on 1 April 1982 its Mortgage Rate will be reduced to 13 3/4 per cent per annum.

The attractions of Chicago ... and of being in the navy

LIT takes its development

London Investment Trust is the latest company to pin its faith on the expansion of commodity markets, particularly financial futures (Michael Frost writes). LIT, which controls the old London commodity clearing firm of E Bailey, has agreed to buy Shatkin Trading, a Chicago commodity clearing business. The deal is designed to develop LIT in two directions - to provide a comprehensive clearing and clearing organization across the London, New York, and Chicago markets; and, in so doing, to make LIT an attractive investment vehicle.

The deal with Shatkin is the second stage of LIT's development. In 1979 LIT's pretax profits were £9,423. But in December of that year it bought Bailey. Profits soared to £475,000 in 1980 and £504,600 last year. On present showing, however, 1982 does not look such a good year for commodities.

Shatkin could do for LIT what Bailey did for it two years ago. The American company's profits for the year to the end of October 1981 were \$1.55m, rather larger than those of LIT, and the average annual compound growth rate over the past five years has been

no less than 38 per cent. Shatkin clears for 13 per cent of floor traders on the Chicago Board of Trade, and has moved into the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, which is expected to be its main source of growth soon.

LIT's faith in Shatkin is demonstrated by the purchase terms. The initial payment is \$2m cash and 18.5 million new LIT shares, worth altogether \$8m. Another \$5m will be paid if Shatkin's profits in 1982 and 1983 are not less than \$2m. After 12.3 million of the shares have been placed by Morgan Grenfell, the vendors of Shatkin will be left with 13.4 per cent of LIT.

A bargain at Aerospace

British Aerospace is still looking a cheap share. No investor should be surprised or worried



Mr Austin Pearce

about the 1,200 redundancies announced yesterday (Sally White writes). The only unexpected fact that emerged from the announcement was that 930 people would still be employed in 1982 to service the 1950s and 1960 RAF and Navy bombers and fighters.

For the figures due from British Aerospace next week, the final year to end 1981, most City analysts are going for £70m-plus at the pretax level. That gives a rating of 10.2 for that set of earnings, and at the following year's forecast of around £80m the rating is 9.2 times at today's share price of 176p. Compared with that, the rating for the mechanical engineering sector is currently 12½ to 13 times - and that includes companies such as

1997 to British Aerospace for its 40 per cent of the airframe production.

While the United Kingdom spending cuts have had their impact on British Aerospace, orders for the civil aviation side - the A300 and the A310 - are still coming in in target to make profits by 1984 to 1985. In the meantime British Aerospace is making the bulk of its profits in the Tornado.

Down to earth to find gold

Silentnight makes furniture and bedding, predominantly in Lancashire, that sounds like a double negative given the generally battered state of both the furniture and bedding trades, and after Stone Plating and Lancashire Industries (Clarke writes) But Mr Tom Clarke's Lancastrian down-to-earth approach to business approach has

brought positive results. The next set of figures, due in a few weeks, is expected to show pretax profits at over £5.2m, against £3.04m the previous year.

As Mr Clarke says: "There are undoubtedly benefits from being in this part of the world. The workforce is highly appreciative of being in work." Silentnight is also in Yorkshire, of course, and it also has had to cut back its workforce in past years, although manpower has been static the last year to 18 months.

The other strengths of the business are also classic: watch Tom Clarke or any of the executives go round the plants and there are few employees whose name they do not know. Local taste for the profit-motive has been channelled into offering half the company's transport work to owner-drivers.

Productivity is increasing, even with a static workforce. Money has been ploughed back into reducing the borrowing. All this has increased investor interest, even at a historic yield of only 4.4 per cent. Silentnight has increased market share in bedding, and is now trying to do the same in furnishing. Satisfy the customers, Mr Clarke has told his workforce staff and customers have also been given the chance to discuss problems face to face, not just formally as executives and workforce.

Overseas there was fierce competition in the Dutch market where the total new business written was well below the previous year's volume. In Germany, the only other overseas country in which the group operates, its position in the relatively small brocker market was strengthened.

Total investment income rose from £81m to £94m and the volume of assets appreciated by £27m. The value of the company's liabilities at the year-end was £98m, up £72m on the previous year.

UNEMPLOYMENT				REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT			
Monthly figures for unemployment in the UK (published by the Department of Employment)				Seasonally adjusted (excluding school leavers)			
	Adults (adjusted 000)	% of all employees	unadjusted school leavers 000		No. of 000	% Change in month	% Change in year
1981				East	660.8	+0.8	0.8
Jan	2,364	9.9	2,485	East of England	172.5	+0.1	1.3
Feb	2,421	10.1	2,523	West of England	177.8	+0.3	1.3
Mar	2,446	10.4	2,588	Midlands	329.0	-0.5	1.4
Apr	2,540	10.8	2,680	North	187.2	+0.1	1.0
May	2,580	10.8	2,682	South	256.0	+0.1	1.2
Jun	2,643	11.1	2,640	West Midlands	402.0	+0.2	1.4
Jul	2,692	11.3	2,699	Yorkshire and the Humber	198.4	-0.3	1.4
Aug	2,726	11.4	2,688	North West	176.8	+0.1	1.3
Sep	2,790	11.6	2,653	North East	104.5	+0.7	1.2
Oct	2,789	11.6	2,641	South East	305.9	-2.1	1.0
Nov	2,812	11.8	3,071	London	2,718.8	+4.3	11.7
Dec	2,818	11.8	3,045	Wales	104.5	+0.7	1.2
1982	2,823	11.8	2,992	UK	2,822.8	+0.8	1.8

WALL STREET

New York, March 23. - Prices opened higher in active trading on the New York Stock Exchange today.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was added by two points to 321.53 shortly after the market opened. Advances outnumbered declines by 570 to 188, among the 1,063 issues crossing the NYSE tape.

Early "big board" volume reached about 7.2m shares, thanks to a block of 3.03m shares in Diamond Shamrock at \$20.

Brokers said the market is now trying to break out of the slump that began last autumn when the economic news was very bad, but they were uncertain how long the rally would last.

Investors were encouraged by the fact that February consumer prices rose by 0.2%, because of a sharp decline in inflation in petrol and car prices.

Wall Street welcomed the news that General Motors and the United Auto Workers Union have reached a tentative contract agreement that could pave the way for some recovery in the economy.

Company	Price	Change	Company	Price	Change
Alcoa	28 1/2	+	General Motors	40 1/2	+
Amstar	24 1/2	+	IBM	165 1/2	+
Armco	26 1/2	+	Johnson & Johnson	52 1/2	+
Baker Hughes	24 1/2	+	Merck	48 1/2	+
Bell	24 1/2	+	Procter & Gamble	44 1/2	+
Borden	24 1/2	+	Rockwell International	44 1/2	+
Boeing	24 1/2	+	Schlumberger	44 1/2	+
Borg-Warner	24 1/2	+	Shaw-Walker	44 1/2	+
Boyd	24 1/2	+	Sperry Rand	44 1/2	+
Brady	24 1/2	+	Union Carbide	44 1/2	+
Burlington	24 1/2	+	Weyerhaeuser	44 1/2	+
Case	24 1/2	+	Yale	44 1/2	+
Case Chemical	24 1/2	+			

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Westland/Utrecht end of the year Statement

for the year ended 31st December 1981

Amsterdam, 17th March 1982

The steady deterioration in the situation on the property market, a result both of high interest rates and of the poor economic prospects, had a severe effect on our company in 1981.

Our loans division made an operating profit of £110.7 million in 1981 as compared with a profit of £106.4 million in 1980. The operating profit in 1981 was a result of a number of factors, including the sale of a number of properties and the reduction in the cost of funds.

The operating profit of the Group was £173.4 million (as against £145.5 million in 1980).

Because of the state of the property market, we raised the allocation made in the loans division to the provision for general contingencies to £1.5 million in 1981, compared with £1.2 million in 1980. We also increased the net provision at the end of 1981 to £1.5 million from £1.2 million in 1980.

We further included a figure of £1.0 million for write-offs in the property sector. Following the completion for completion for £1.0 million, the figure for 1981 shows a loss of £1.0 million as against a profit of £1.0 million in 1980.

Resolutions will be moved at the general meeting of shareholders to set off the loss against the reserves and not pay any dividend for 1981.

The breakdown for the loss of £122.7 million is as follows (the 1980 figures are also given for purposes of comparison):

	1981	1980
Operating results	173.4	145.5
Write-offs and provisions in respect of the property sector	+ 170	+ 20
Allocation to provision for general contingencies	+ 80	+ 8
Release of allocation to provision for loss	- 140.0	- 34.0
Loss/profit	173.4	239.5

The company made an operating profit of £13.3 million in the last three months of 1981, compared with an operating profit of £11.4 million in the same period in 1980.

The following table shows the operating results on a quarterly basis (the figures are rounded off):

	1981	1980
Operating results	33.1	13.1
Second quarter	3.2	11.3
Third quarter	3.9	11.4
Fourth quarter	2.0	11.2
Operating profit	173.4	239.5

Westland/Utrecht Hypotheekbank NV

SMITH & NEPHEW

Success for Nivea and Elastoplast

Smith & Nephew, makers of Elastoplast, and Nivea Cream yesterday pushed up pretax profits, from £24.32m to £29.13m for the year to January 2, 1982.

Sales were also improved at £221m against £213m last year. The group's net cost of borrowing increased from £6m to £6.14m, and the tax charge also rose to £8.9m from £6.8m.

Net borrowings are down slightly on 1980 at £37.2m against £37.9m, and represent one quarter of total assets employed.

An extraordinary charge of £636,000 is made up of losses incurred on the final disposal of the group's world-wide cosmetic activities and other smaller items. The company says these losses have been substantially offset by a profit on disposal of its plastic sheet extrusion business.

Final dividend for 1981 was 3.85p gross, making a total pay-out for the year of 5.7p. Excluding an exceptional item from the righty higher interest in the Ninian field, sales were up from £108.4m to £237.1m, but so was the taxation charge at £79.8m (against £25.5m). Including the special item, net profits were struck at £40.5m (£220m).

LASMO

Lasmo, the independent British oil company, reported a sharp increase in pretax profits from £47.3m to £113.2m yesterday, with a bullish statement which directors acknowledged to be an attempt to offset some of the gloom in the oil sector.

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Oil buoyancy

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PEACHEY PROPERTY

A substantial uplift in net rental income has taken Peachey's pretax profits 45 per cent higher at £2.67m, against £1.84m during the months to December 25, 1981.

PROFITS BLOSSOM

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LATEST RESULTS

Company	Gains	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pav	Year's total
Brit Car Auction (I)	138(103.7)	1,51(2.1)	6(1.5)	1,78(1.5)	—	—
Brent Chem (I)	48,562(2.1)	3,622(2.2)	6(1.5)	1,78(1.5)	—	—
Burton (I)	116,910(2.3)	14,28(5.3)	—	2,52(2.3)	30/7	—
Case Chemical (I)	10,368(2.7)	7,77(5.5)	25,41(6.1)	4(1.3)	—	—
Firm's and Sons (I)	2,562(2.1)	4,430(2.2)	4(1.8)	3(2.5)	—	—
Midland Chemical (I)	1,452(2.1)	2,178(1.7)	2,352(1.7)	5(1.8)	1/7	—
Fin and Fin (I)	0(1.70.11)	0(1.80.05)	0(1.80.05)	0(1.80.05)	—	—
Love Inv (I)	—	0(1.80.05)	0(1.80.05)	0(1.80.05)	—	—
Lasmo (I)	237(108.4)	1,132(11.2)	13(11.7)	1,31(1.1)	7/5	—
J. Riley (I)	149(122)	2,671(8.4)	4(4.3)	2,54(1.5)	27/5	—
Peachey Prop (I)	4,734(12)	0(1.80.05)	0(1.80.05)	0(1.80.05)	—	—
Richard Eng (I)	0(1.10.1)	0(1.80.05)	0(1.80.05)	0(1.80.05)	—	—
Smith & Nephew (I)	251(213)	28,124(3)	9,96(7.8)	2(7.2)	25/5	—
Tomatin (I)	9,428(10.7)	2,361(1.7)	37,362(20.8)	—	—	—
Westland/Utrecht (I)	17,215(10.8)	1,132(11.2)	13(11.7)	1,31(1.1)	7/5	—
Wattmough (I)	1,521(1.7)	27,219(4)	32,252(3.5)	1(1.7)	27/4	—
Wills Faber (I)	75,850(9)	0(1.80.05)	0(1.80.05)	0(1.80.05)	—	—
W. S. Yarnall (I)	20,342(22.7)	0(1.80.05)	0(1.80.05)	0(1.80.05)	—	—

Dividends in the table are shown net of tax on basis per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To enable gross multiply the net dividend by 1.228. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. Second interim dividend, March.

BIDS AND DEALS

S A Manganese Amcor (Samcor) and Anglo American Corp. announced an agreement whereby Samcor will acquire from Anglo the capital and loan to Middelburg Manganese from 31 March 1982 in exchange for 9,000,000 ordinary shares in Samcor to be allotted at 300 cents a share.

Pennine Commercial Holdings' subsidiary Pennine Oil, has acquired a further 10 petrol stations for a consideration of £200,000, payable £80,000 in cash, £80,000 by way of the issue of 800,000 ordinary shares and £40,000 by the issue of 287,500 nominal of 15% unsecured loan stock 1986 in Pennine.

Siemens Components division will continue loss-making in the year to September 30, the company said in Munich. Turnover in communications and data systems is expected to increase in 1981/82.

Banka Commerciale, one of the biggest Italian public banks, reported its net profit for 1981 rose to L46,120m (£1,996m) from £22,780m a year earlier. The board decided distribution of L700 dividend a share, compared with 600 the previous year. The bank's deposits rose 25.14 per cent, to L34,460,000m.

Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical is to take another 55,000 tons of primary aluminum capacity out of production. The company is producing alumina at its Mead Washington, smelter, near Spokane, will be taken off over the next two weeks.

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COMMODITIES

COPPER: Higher grade copper closed steady at the higher levels. Cash 250-255.00. Three months 250-255.00. Six months 250-255.00. Higher grade copper, 250-255.00. Lower grade copper, 250-255.00.

COCAINE: The London daily price of cocaine was unchanged at £120.00 per ton. The price was unchanged at £120.00 per ton. The price was unchanged at £120.00 per ton.

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INTERNATIONAL



UNITED STATES

BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

PEOPLE

From Sony, some Ah-So semantics

When Akio Morita first visited Britain in 1953, he received a "big shock" on finding the natives were unable to pronounce the name of his Japanese firm, Tokyo Tsushin Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha. So he and his colleagues sought a suitable alternative to bridge the East-West cultural gap.

Their solution was to explore the Latin dictionary and English vernacular, whence they plundered *sonus* (sound) and a contemporary expression, "sonny boy", and Mr Morita explained, "since we were a group of sonny boys working in sound and vision, we agreed on the name Sony".

The dedication which has progressed Sony from a company with £125 capital and 20 workers in 1946 to today's multi-billion-pound corporation employing 40,000 staff worldwide, is still inherent in the outlook of its co-founder, chairman and chief executive, Mr Morita believes in competitiveness, worker-management cooperation, but above all in "the joy of participation and achievement".

Sony has tried, he told delegates at the Institute of Directors' annual convention at the Royal Albert Hall yesterday, "to transplant the concept into Western countries...".

Crusading in good form

Walter Goldsmith, unashamed patriot, optimist and director general of the institute, was in crusading good form as he lashed the unions not only as "the prime source of unemployment and the biggest obstacle to new employment", but also as "the chief cause of the catastrophic decline of Britain's economy".

Yet he reserved ammunition for boardrooms as well, accusing some management of spinelessness. He called on members of the institute, whose ranks have swelled by 400 in the last year, to spearhead a new generation of British business, and to enable Britain to become a low-tax, high-incentive and high-pay society.

Guru of all he informs

Our very own high technology guru, Kenneth Baker, demonstrated to the assembled directors that he was indeed the master of his craft and no mean manipulator of the whole range of available information by illustrating his speech with the aid of video display.

Two large screens flanked the speaker as he held the magic



Baker — no mean manipulator of the new micro-chip age to the masters of British industry. However it was a help that the Royal Albert Hall was designed to push the products of a symphony orchestra and not to sell the benefits of micro-circuitry.

The minister had to read off some of the details on his slides for those who were in the cheaper seats at the back.

Lunchbox legends

The renowned lunchboxes were well in evidence at 1,500 of them, stacked in every conceivable corner. But where, Sir Keith Joseph demanded, are all women? "This is an almost entirely male audience — we organise things better in the Government these days," the Secretary of State for Education affirmed.

Perhaps it will all be different next year, when Mrs Thatcher has consented to be the main guest speaker.

Nicholas Cole

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr Allan McKay is to be deputy chairman of East Midlands Region of British Gas and Mr George Langshaw deputy chairman of North Western Region.

Mr Richard Freeman has been appointed an assistant director of Charterhouse Japhet.

Mr D J C Berens becomes managing director of London Trust Company to succeed Mr Lionel Rolfe.

Mr W H Forsey has been appointed as deputy chairman, in addition to his duties as chief general manager of the Royal London — Mutual Insurance Society.

Sir Guy Fison, recently chairman of Saccione and Speed International, has joined Whitehead Mann as a non-executive director.

A secret meeting tried to stave off the 1973 secondary banking crisis

Midnight marathon at the Bank

In the first of two articles on the crisis which faced Britain's banks, Margaret Reid reconstructs the crucial meeting which Mr Gordon Richardson called to shore up Cedar Holdings in an attempt to stop panic in the City.

From 3am on Wednesday, December 19, 1973, until 3am the following day, a sequence of secret meetings took place at the Bank of England.

Prominent among those involved were Mr Gordon Richardson, the new Governor; Sir (then Mr) Jasper Holman, the youthful-looking Deputy Governor; Sir (then Mr) Kenneth Cork, the head of the accountancy firm W. H. Cork Gully who was best known as a company doctor and "undertaker"; and a number of key figures from large investing institutions and banks.

The subject was the plight of Cedar Holdings, one of the many secondary or fringe banks which had grown up rapidly alongside the older established banks and whose failure, it was feared, could have dangerous repercussions throughout the banking system.

Cedar, which specialised in the then controversial business of second mortgage lending to individuals and which also held property interests, was on the edge of collapse. It had experienced a sharp outflow of deposits that — unable quickly to reclaim cash against its loans — it would be able to sustain only if it received immediate major cash backing.

The adverse swing in the fortunes of this very rapidly expanded but previously prospering business had followed a recent tightening in the Government's economic policies, involving a jump in the Bank of England's key minimum lending rate to a record 13 per cent, and only two days earlier, a tough mini budget from the Conservative Chancellor of the Exchequer, Lord (then Mr) Anthony Barber. Cedar's business had also been hit by the repercussions of a crisis three weeks earlier, at another secondary bank, London and County Securities Group.

It was by no means unprecedented for a bank of England to concern itself with the problems of a tottering bank. But on this occasion a further important cause for alarm was the danger that Cedar's troubles, if not solved, would be transmitted, through a domino effect, to the many other secondary banks which, with much vulnerable short-term borrowing and many assets tied up in the increasingly troubled property industry, were themselves showing signs of being at risk in the harsher new economic environment.

With such a considerable part of the financial sector potentially in jeopardy, who could say what dangers a highly publicised failure might not present for the whole banking system?

A Cedar rescue would require the cooperation of the four institutional investors — Phoenix Assurance and the pension funds of Unilever, the electricity supply industry and the National Coal Board — and of Barclays Bank, Cedar's main clearing bank.

For those cast in the role of rescue party a suite of three rooms on the Bank's



The Governor spells it out. Left to right: Viscount De L'Isle, Mr Cob Stenham, Mr David Clement, Mr Hugh Jenkins, Sir Jasper Holman, Mr Gordon Richardson

first floor was provided. These were the Court Room, which contains a weather vane, at that time registering "deep depression"; the Octagon Room opening into it; and an anteroom. A separate committee room downstairs had been allotted to Cedar's chairman, 72-year-old Sir Jack Morrison, and its other executive directors, including two managing directors, Mr Michael Morrison, the chairman's son, and Mr David Fischer.

Early in the day, Mr Richardson addressed the assembled representatives. On the other side of the table, receiving the governor's appeal — or rather demand — for a support package were ten men speaking for the four institutions which had for some years backed the hitherto very profitable Cedar with millions of pounds of share and loan capital. The party included Mr J. H. Broadfield of the Unilever pension fund, who was a non-executive director of Cedar, and Mr Hugh Jenkins, investment manager of the National Coal Board pension funds, who was shortly to join the Cedar board. But on this unusually important occasion the institutions were also represented at a higher level, Phoenix by its chairman, Viscount De L'Isle, who also chaired the large secondary bank, First National Finance Corporation.

Governor urged a rescue

Present too was Mr Cob Stenham, financial director of Unilever and chairman of the Unilever pension fund. Mr Burton Johnson, financial adviser to the Electricity Council, represented the management committee of the electricity supply industry. Mr David Clement, the Coal Board's finance director who also chaired its pension funds' joint investment sub-committee, joined the gathering a little later in the day, as did Mr Tim Bevan, chairman

of Barclays Bank UK management company and afterwards chairman of the Barclays Bank group, and Mr Deryk Vander Weyer, Barclay's senior general manager, who later chaired Barclay's Bank UK.

The Governor urged the representatives of the institutions to consider what rescue could be mounted and pressed them to make their response in the light of the more general dangers to be anticipated, were Cedar to be allowed to fail.

The Bank of England was asking them to devise a method of refinancing, as necessary, the whole of Cedar's £72m money book of borrowings.

The Governor and Deputy Governor were insisting "decreasing" in the words of one of those present, that before the opening of the exchange in the morning — when Cedar's share quotation was due to be suspended — cover must be provided for all the deposits which might be withdrawn. Nothing less could guard against the blow to public confidence which would be produced by panic-stricken small depositors hammering vainly on closed doors for the repayment of their savings or the unrepayable consequences of the big lenders through the money markets being unable to get back deposits they had placed with Cedar.

In short, the assembled party had got to stay in the Bank until the right sort of package was wrapped up.

Phoenix and the electricity pension fund, appeared most willing to respond promptly to the Bank's urging. A more critical response came from the coal board representatives, and, perhaps most of all, from the Unilever pension fund. Chairman, Mr Stenham was for hours not satisfied about the case for the proposed large rescue venture.

As the day went on, the Bank piled on the pressure and some sharp exchanges occurred. One of the blunter conversations was between Mr Stenham and Sir Jasper Holman. Mr Stenham is quoted as having said "This

is immensely complicated — we all need time to think", to which, it was recalled, Sir Jasper replied "You have got half an hour". This was far from well received by Mr Stenham, and he is said to have suggested that the remark would more appropriately have been addressed to one of Sir Jasper's clerks.

Bank piled on pressure

Eventually, however, the representatives of the four big institutions all came round to accepting the need for a rescue package and agreed to make available the required large sums.

The four institutions would provide £50m between them, and Barclays Bank would make £22m available, with the right, broadly, to be repaid ahead of other institutions. It was an essential element in the solution that the institutions would in due course take over the bulk of the company's multi-million pound property portfolio. This would take Cedar out of a business not related to finance and generate cash towards the repayment of the rescue advances.

But now it suddenly became apparent that there were serious hesitations about accepting the proposed rescue package among Cedar's top executive directors, who owned large shareholdings.

Just before 6pm that evening, Sir Kenneth Cork received an urgent summons to go over to the Bank of England.

"There was this gathering about Cedar Holdings, a company I had never even heard of before. Everyone was arguing about what to do about the most of the plan had been hammered out before I got there", he says.

The emergency atmosphere was accentuated by the pervasive physical chill due to the crisis. Many of the negotiators wore their overcoats.

A draft for the rescue package was eventually taken down to the separate gathering of Cedar's chairman, managing and executive

directors, who were asked to sign it. They were reluctant. Deadlock threatened, and the time was approaching midnight, only nine-and-a-half hours before the stock exchange was due to open for business.

At 11.30pm Sir Kenneth went down to Mr Jack Morrison, Cedar's chairman, and the other executive directors and found them he remembers, "very unhappy. Here was their company, till then very prosperous, suddenly faced with a situation where they felt they had lost their interest".

He returned upstairs an hour later, having obtained their consent, after stressing that the basis of the price offered for the property was more favourable than could be expected from disposal of a collapsed concern's assets.

The package of loans and credit was thus duly wrapped up.

Having cobbled together the £72m support package for Cedar, the embattled bankers snatched a few hours' sleep. But hopes that the developing wider crisis would be damped down by the Cedar rescue quickly proved unjustified. Cedar's share quotation was duly suspended at the start of stock market dealing the morning of Thursday, December 20, and the news of the rescue package was announced at about the same time. But the public revelation of the crisis at such a sizeable group sent shock waves through the City, as the extent of the flight of deposits which had been taking place was realized. Rumours of problems at other fringe banks swept through the financial community, and, within two-and-a-half hours of the stock exchange's opening, shares of many secondary banks dropped by about a third, wiping millions of pounds off their value.

Adapted from "The Secondary Banking Crisis, 1973-75" to be published tomorrow by The Macmillan Press, price £20. Tomorrow, how much the lifeboat cost.

Burton seems to have found itself a neat niche in the market place and its growing chain of up-to-date Top Man and Top Shop outlets should benefit strongly from any upturn on consumer demand. Fears that the group would return to its former dull performance after completing the modernization programme look unwarranted. On the lift in the dividend to 2.5p and the group would return to 170p. The historic yield is 5.5 per cent.

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One young enterprise which may break through the one-year barrier is Easy Carry, whose principal asset and only employee is 17-year-old Christine Hook.

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These were a mixture of schoolchildren and young unemployed, they raised their own share capital from well-wishers, paid rent on premises — and at the end of their year of operation paid a dividend of 43 per cent as well as "corporation tax", a contribution to Young Enterprise, as the legal entity under whose auspices they were trading.

Last year, the number of companies in the Swansea area rose to five, and Mr

Williams says advertisements in the local press have brought forward enough interested children to make it possible to start and staff 25 companies.

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One young enterprise which may break through the one-year barrier is Easy Carry, whose principal asset and only employee is 17-year-old Christine Hook.

And the biggest pleasure of business? "The satisfaction of seeing the finished product, it's your baby and it's going to make money."

Young Enterprise helps by providing initial advice and a do-it-yourself "company kit" containing articles and memoranda of association, briefs for the various jobs within the company, share certificates and sales and purchase order forms.

"We began with one pilot company at Ystradgynlais, north of Swansea," says Mr Williams. "It was called Triple Acorn and was run by 20 youngsters between 15 and 19 producing printed T-shirts."

These were a mixture of schoolchildren and young unemployed, they raised their own share capital from well-wishers, paid rent on premises — and at the end of their year of operation paid a dividend of 43 per cent as well as "corporation tax", a contribution to Young Enterprise, as the legal entity under whose auspices they were trading.

Last year, the number of companies in the Swansea area rose to five, and Mr

Williams says advertisements in the local press have brought forward enough interested children to make it possible to start and staff 25 companies.

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Stock Exchange Prices

Equities advance

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 15. Dealings End March 26. Contango Day, March 29. Settlement Day, April 5.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

1981/82 High Low Stock				1981/82 High Low Company				1981/82 High Low Company				1981/82 High Low Company				1981/82 High Low Company			
Price	Change	Yield	P/E	Price	Change	Yield	P/E	Price	Change	Yield	P/E	Price	Change	Yield	P/E	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
BRITISH FUNDS																			
1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL																			
1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN																			
1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
LOCAL AUTHORITIES																			
1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
BANKS AND DISCOUNTS																			
1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
BREWERS AND DISTILLERIES																			
1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
STERLING: SPOT AND FORWARD																			
MONEY MARKET																			
OTHER MARKETS																			
DOLLAR SPOT RATES																			
Euro-Deposits																			
Gold																			
RECENT ISSUES																			
RIGHTS ISSUES																			

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name of Britain's top athletes to be sent to Portugal for a training camp organized by the International Athletes' Club. The club is headed by American Olympic coach and Amateur Athletic Board's national coach, who is in charge of the camp. The club's members include Gaster, Joslyn Hoyte, Vera, Veronica Elder, David, Christiana Boxer, Barry, Susan, Langanman, Paul, and Kevin. Mike Winch and Jeffery Callender.

Andy Nelson, of the United States, was named women's giant slalom, saying "this race which is tailor-made for me" and recorded a 10.37 on a 2,010-meter-long track with up of 490 and a small jump in a few gates from the finish.

A grand final sign of relief

format of the Saab grand
sings, which start today at
ing Leisure Centre, will be
ated with relief by the
participants and the 1,000
the qualifying tournaments
ers up to these finals the
ers had to negotiate a
overweight robin which
match consisted of a single
This week they will be
ing the best of three sets all
ush.

is it
ebello, who won all four of
winter's 14-and-under
ers is needed to meet
the 1,000. The winner will take away
2000 Saab grant to use for
the development while the
finalist will have £100.
The 14-and-under girls' sec-
which carries the same

money, is not so strong. Although, the outstanding element in this group, refused her nomination then Sarah Sullivan, took her place as first, and drew a massive injury. Her favourite is Devon's one Louis, who reached the 1913 winter's world junior championship in Florida.

Our Scottish, ice speed skaters today failed in a High start attempt to prevent their inclusion by the National Skating Association of Great Britain for competing in Belgium month without obtaining permission. Mr. Eric Walton was no error, on an application Robert Blair, Arthur McConnel, and Marbur, and Brian for suspensions. During NSA suspending them over 1961-82 season.

JRES

REAL LEAGUE: Blackburn v Newcastle
 1-0; Sheffield Wed. v Cardiff
 1-0; Colchester v Reading 1-0
SECOND LEAGUE CUP: Second round
 in action
IN ACTION
 (1) **LEAGUE** (at Bangor): UALL v
 Yough (10-55) in Ireland v Wales (1-30);
 Scotland (2-30)
 (2) **INTERNETIVE MATCHES:** RAF v Army at
 London (2-30)
 (3) **INDIVIDUAL MATCHES:** v Manchester
 v Derbyshire v Northampton v North
 v Plymouth v Bristol (1-0); Gloucestershire
 v Devon (1-0); Wales (7-15); Manchester
 v Bristol (1-0)
LEAGUE: First Division, Mill KR v
 Leicester; John Player A-S, England Open
 v Northern Varsity; R.A.F. Inter-
 Competitions - Fleet (R.A.F. West
 3-0)
WASH RACQUET: Patrick International
 v Bournemouth
CRICKET: BUSP Group Championship at
 Bristol (1-0)
HOCKEY: Great Britain v Spain (at
 team, 6-0)

LOW REPORTS

Runs to a resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Order Good	Cloud	+4

Order	Good	Fine	+3
Order	Good	Snow	-6
Order	Fair	Sun	-4
Order	Good	Fine	-1
Order	Good	Cloud	-5
Order	Good	Fine	-2
Order	Good	Cloud	+3
Order	Good	—	+3
Order	Good	Fine	+1
Order	Good	Fine	-2

atives of the Ski Club of Great
 slopes. The following reports

1,000 ft. Above road clear. Snow
 2,000 ft. none at complete. Snow

Lower slopes—ample nursery areas.
Snow. Vertical runs—1,500ft. Access
clear. Snow level—2,000ft.
a. Main runs and lower slopes all
clear. Hard-packed snow. Vertical
runs—2,200ft. Access roads clear. Snow
level—1,300ft.
Main runs all complete. Hard-packed
on a firm base. Lower slopes—ample
nursery areas. Hard-packed snow on a firm
base. Vertical runs—600ft. Access roads
clear. Snow level—2,000ft.

COUNTRY PROPERTIES

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1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

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